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New pub raises a glass to royal baby

SEE **PAGE 20**

Performers step into the spotlight

SEE **PAGE 9**

Lucky escape

40ft tree the council said wasn't a danger narrowly misses house

BY JESSICA DUNCAN
jessica.duncan@mk-news.co.uk

A PENSIONER had a lucky escape after a 40ft tree narrowly missed her bedroom.

Val Gurden, 71, was fast asleep on Saturday morning when the huge Leylandii tree toppled to the ground – crushing the top of her and husband Alan's car and trapping them inside their home in Hawthorn Avenue, Bletchley.

The retired couple are angry about the damage that has been caused after they wrote to Milton Keynes Council voicing their concerns about the tree, located on a public footpath at the front of their garden, in September last year.

Mr Gurden, 74, said: "We have complained verbally to the council several times over the years and last September we made a formal complaint by letter.

"We were told that the tree had no significant defect or was a danger to the property to warrant its removal."

Mrs Gurden added: "We wanted it removed because of the huge size of it and because it kept bringing down our telephone lines and affecting those of our neighbours. The tree also blocked light to the property and made the front room very cold."

Firefighters were called to the house at 6.25am on Saturday and cut parts of the tree away to enable the couple to get in and out of their home.

Mrs Gurden said: "The tree was right over the door, we were lucky the car took it and nobody got killed."

A spokesman for Milton Keynes Council said: "It's very unfortunate that this couple's car has been damaged by this tree but when it was inspected last year there was no indication of any defects or decay that would indicate the tree was likely to fall over.

"Obviously we have had very high winds and unprecedented weather conditions in general over the weekend."

Timber: *Left*, the tree on top of the car, blocking the house. Below: Alan and Val Gurden

STORM FACTS

- 60mph wind speeds were recorded
- 150 trees were damaged in parks
- 60 trees uprooted on city roads
- Council costs to repair the damage set to be in the thousands

Council contractors were at the pensioners' property on Monday taking away the fallen tree and removing another that was posing a danger.

The couple were pleased to see the trees removed but Mr Gurden stressed that it was 'too little too late' as they will now have to pay the cost of repairing their Suzuki Liana.

He added: "The tree should have been cut down last September or when we began complaining about it.

"I know the council is blaming the wind but it could have been prevented."

Buckinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service was called out more than 20 times to fallen trees and damaged buildings across the city over the weekend as it was battered by gale force winds.

Signs were damaged at Xscape and other businesses and trees fell across roads in Old Wolverton, Bradville, Loughton and Kiln Farm with the cost of the clear-up expected to be thousands of pounds.

There were also 150 trees damaged on land managed by The Parks Trust.

Head of operations, Rob Riekie, said: "The parks haven't had this amount of storm-related damage for about 10 years."

Councillor: 'Beanhill is not so bad'

RESIDENTS and councillors have sprung to the defence of Beanhill – after it once again topped the Social Atlas as the worst place to live in Milton Keynes.

The atlas, compiled by Milton Keynes Council's MK Observatory, is released every year to provide a snapshot of each estate in the borough, including social indicators like benefit uptake and health factors.

Beanhill retained its title as the place with the 'most issues' for 2013, but one local councillor has leapt to its defence and said that 'he wouldn't live anywhere else'.

Cllr Peter Orme is chairman of Woughton Community Council, which covers Beanhill.

He told MK NEWS: "Beanhill is not such a bad place to live, I honestly wouldn't live anywhere else. We are a very peaceful and multicultural community and we get on well with one another."

Sue Smith, chairman of the Beanhill Action Group, said: "It is so disheartening for the residents of Beanhill that year after year we get this title. Yes we do have our fair share [of problems] but in no way are we the worst estate in MK."

The atlas also revealed that Loughton Lodge was the best place to live in the city.

Loughton parish councillor Barry Barrington said: "Loughton Lodge is the best of both worlds, living in what feels like a rural setting of peace and quiet, but just a stones throw away from the city centre."

Other findings in the atlas revealed that life expectancy from birth is highest in Middleton (86.3 years) – 11 years more than Woughton at 75.4.

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Goal: MK Dons chairman Pete Winkelman, Oxford captain Sahara Osborne-Ricketts, Arsenal defender Alex Scott and head of SET John Cove celebrate the Women's FA Cup final coming to Milton Keynes

MK to host women's FA Cup

MILTON Keynes will host the Women's FA Cup final on June 1.

If demand is high enough for the match, which will be broadcast on BBC Two, the top tier of stadiummk could be used for the first time.

"Use of the top tier is ready but it's dependent on demand," said John Cove, head of Dons' Sport Education Trust (SET) programme.

"The hope is that for the Women's FA Cup final the whole stadium will be at capacity. This is a world-class event coming to Milton Keynes. For the FA Cup to come to Milton Keynes is absolutely fantastic."

Andrew Geary, leader of Milton Keynes Council, said: "It's fantastic for Milton Keynes. We've worked really hard on our International Sporting City aspirations and this is another piece in the jigsaw and takes us another massive step forward."

Tickets go on sale on Friday. Go to www.thefa.com for more details.

We're up for newspaper of the year!

MK NEWS has been nominated for a prestigious Weekly Newspaper of the Year award.

Milton Keynes' favourite paper has been shortlisted for the honour in the Newspaper Awards 2014, alongside titles such as the Oxford Times and the Express and Echo in Exeter.

We previously claimed the same title in 2008.

Editor Cally Jenkins said: "We're delighted that we have been nominated for such a prestigious award.

"We are at the forefront of news coverage in Milton Keynes and we are glad that is being recognised."

The winners of the awards, which are dedicated to newspaper and news media production, will be announced at a ceremony in London on Tuesday, April 1.

'Berlin Wall' sparks fury at historic site

BY JAMES AVERILL
james.averill@mk-news.co.uk

A WAR of words at Bletchley Park has been ignited over the construction of a 'Berlin Wall' style fence that will 'fragment' the site.

Bletchley Park is putting up fencing and gates between some of the renovated huts and a large part of the site – including the National Museum of Computing (TNMOC) which houses the famous war computer, Colossus.

And a TNMOC employee, Andrew Spencer, has posted a personal online blog comparing it to the 'Berlin Wall'. The blog read: "This is not simply bollards but a six foot plus modern fence that feels like the Berlin Wall."

The site is famous as the home of the codebreakers that helped shorten the war with Germany.

And the row comes just weeks after a volunteer was dismissed from his job as a tour guide at Bletchley Park for taking people to visit Coloussus at TNMOC.

A statement from TNMOC said: "Unsightly gates and fencing will fragment the site.

"We should be celebrating the site's history rather than erecting fences and splitting a heritage site."

A statement from the Bletchley Park Trust retorted: "There is no fragmentation of the site and the zoning of the site will make it more user friendly."

It added the fence would provide security for 'priceless artefacts'.

COMMENT ON THIS STORY ONLINE
VISIT OUR WEBSITE - WWW.MKWEB.CO.UK

Public toilet at last for station?

Spend a penny: Public toilet facilities look set to finally be installed at Station Square

BY JAMES AVERILL
james.averill@mk-news.co.uk

PUBLIC toilets are set to be introduced in Station Square – if an amendment to the council's budget is agreed at a meeting tonight.

And Milton Keynes Council leader Andrew Geary has also told MK NEWS that the much-loved Plus Bus community transport scheme will not see a reduction in its service.

This newspaper previously reported how a lack of public toilets had left commuters cross-legged at the station.

But now the council has found a spare £75,000 to provide a public toilet, enough to run it for the duration of a five-year contract.

Cllr Geary said: "They aren't permanent well built blocks, but frankly why would you want that when they could be vandalised?"

The pre-built toilet will be attached to plumbing work that is already in place.

Peter Ballantyne, of Milton Keynes Bus Users Group, had led calls for toilets to be installed and said it was a 'welcome start' that he encouraged leaders of all three parties to support.

Cllr Geary has also pledged that the Plus Bus – which provides transport for residents unable to use public transport through disability or learning difficulties – will 'not stop on his watch'.

Liberal Democrat leader Douglas McCall had called into question a review that he claimed would seek to cut the number of people eligible for the service by two thirds.

But Cllr Geary claimed the review would look at those who 'should not be using it'.

■ *For more on the council's budget, turn to page 15.*

HAVE A SAY – COMMENT ON THIS STORY ONLINE
VISIT OUR WEBSITE - WWW.MKWEB.CO.UK

MKNEWSBRIEFS

Person hit by train

THERE were severe delays at Milton Keynes Central yesterday evening after a person was hit by a train. Platforms were evacuated while emergency services attended the scene during rush hour.

Jewellery snatched

THIEVES stole an engagement ring, a white gold wedding band, nine watches and an Apple Macbook from a house in Whitehaven Close, Broughton. The burglary took place between 2pm and 6pm on February 10. Anyone with information can call police on 101.

Bedroom tax arrears

THERE are now 837 households who are behind with their rent payments to Milton Keynes Council due to the Government's 'bedroom tax'. This figure, released by the council, has increased by 121 since September 2013.

Infrastructure before build plea

COUNCILLORS in West Bletchley are demanding that infrastructure be in place before any agreed expansion at Salden Chase takes place – including the possibility of a new railway station.

Milton Keynes South West Consortium is 'finalising' plans to submit a planning application for 1,800 homes to the south west of Bletchley.

But town councillors are calling for a new railway to be included, ensure drainage problems are resolved and for Chepstow Park to be protected from development.

Previous proposals to build there were rejected in 2011.

Cllr Elaine Wales said: "We must have I before E. There is strong opposition to this development."

A spokesman for the consortium said it would 'engage extensively' with local authorities and residents.

Blade held to young worker

A 20-YEAR-OLD female assistant was threatened with a knife at New Bradwell Food and Wine.

At about 9.35pm on Thursday a man entered the shop in Newport Road.

He demanded cash from the till and the worker handed over an undisclosed amount.

The thief then left towards Thompson Street.

He is described as white and in his early to mid-20s and was wearing dark clothing.

Detective Constable Jason Simpson said: "Fortunately the young assistant was not hurt, but she has been left shaken.

"We believe the offender may have been hanging around the area prior to offence.

"If you saw anything call 101."

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It's been a crazy few months for Cloudy2Clear Windows. The company which specialises in repairing windows which are steamed up, broken or damaged by replacing the panes – not the frames has grown rapidly as homeowners take advantage of their services.

Managing Director Billy Harley feels that it's all about service. 'Our product is simple. If your double glazing is misted up we can replace the glass at a fraction of the cost of a new window, in any type of frame, and with a new 5 year guarantee. But it's not just about saving people money, although that obviously helps. Many tradespeople have struggled since last year and I honestly feel that during the good times a minority perhaps didn't focus on customer care as much as they should have done. We make sure we turn up when we say we will, do the job the customer requires and leave their house as clean as a whistle. I often get comments back from customers on how they really didn't expect that sort of service which, in a way, is very sad for the service industry as a whole.'

Cloudy2Clear service the Bedford, Milton Keynes & Leighton Buzzard areas and Billy is finding that his approach is a major factor in his success. 'The truth is that it's not just the personal satisfaction that I get from doing a good job but also it makes good business sense. I get a huge amount of business from friends and family of people I've done work for, which just goes to show how much a little bit of effort is appreciated.'

So, if your windows are steamed up, broken or damaged give Billy a call for a free quotation on **0800 61 21 118** and he'll be happy to help!

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According to the latest independent, audited readership figures, MK NEWS has a weekly readership in excess of 130,000 adults and this figure is growing as we add on more copies to our distribution across MK. We aim to deliver the best possible service to our readers but if you have any questions or concerns about distribution please feel free to contact our team on the number listed above. Our deliverers earn top rates of pay. If you'd like to join our team please contact the distribution department on the number above.

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Office open 9am-5.30pm or by appointment.
Published and originated by a division of Local World Ltd
Printed by Iliffe Print in Cambridge

MK LETTERS

Letters to The Editor, MK NEWS, 1 Diamond Court, Fox Milne, Milton Keynes MK15 0DU | letters@mk-news.co.uk

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Have a say on parking

I WRITE in support of two of your correspondents – Alan Howkins and Chris Gossop – whose letters you published in MK NEWS on February 5.

These letters outlined the difficulty and danger of parking near schools in Two Mile Ash.

We in Loughton and Great Holm suffer the same problem, which can only get worse.

Four years ago, as a community project, we secured lottery funding to expand Holmwood School staff car park – thus releasing 14 extra spaces in the main front car park. Its capacity is still only 50 vehicles.

It also serves to support the Hilltops Medical Centre, which has 16,000 patients, and also Rainbow Pharmacy. This is in addition to the Grebe public house.

There is a proposal to increase the size of Holmwood School in Great Holm by 60 places for three and four-year-olds.

All these are not required by local residents, and the vast majority will travel by car to drop off their young children. 'Drop off' is a misnomer, since the very young children will have to be escorted onto (or collected from) the school premises in person, leaving cars in the already overcrowded car park. The same applies to Ashbrook School in Two Mile Ash.

Loughton and Great Holm Neighbourhood Action Group discussed this concern at its meeting earlier this month. Some of the constructive ideas were discussed (for example car sharing, walking busses, staggered start times, etc) but none seemed appropriate in these circumstances.

When considering parking provision, we believe that the formula applied is that every six extra children will require one extra parking space and plans are made according to that formula.

This may be sensible when the school is genuinely a local one, but not when children come from far and wide to attend 'good' or 'outstanding' schools.

The two schools in Loughton suffer the same fate, with chaotic and very dangerous parking by parents in a hurry – often thinking only of themselves and not the safety of other children.

Will it take a serious injury (or worse) before constructive, realistic action is taken?

This is a problem not unique to this area and a city-wide strategy is needed to deal with this serious challenge.

A public consultation is taking place until March 21 and I urge everyone affected or concerned to take part. The web address is: http://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/consultations/Consultation/303. The more views received the better the outcome.

Peter T Ballantyne
Chairman, Loughton and Great Holm Neighbourhood Action Group

Estates are car parks

WITH regards to your story 'Committee grant major housing development in Milton Keynes even though it will be 'parking nightmare'' (*MKWeb and MK NEWS*).

To Peter Trodden from Bellway Homes I say 'rubbish'. The planning committee at Milton Keynes Council clearly hasn't 'endorsed' your scheme, it has reluctantly decided it can't afford to object to it.

Look at every single Bellway development in MK and you will find dreadful parking problems. Start with Broughton and the much-reported problems there.

I live in Grange Farm, where the parking is fairly dreadful in the evenings. Tandem parking is definitely a big part of that problem – people are often too lazy to swap cars around, so just park on the road instead.

Wickstead Avenue is a great example of this – chicanes are obstructed and people park right on top of, and opposite, junctions. There's almost no provision for visitors' parking either.

The result is that narrow estate roads are turned into car parks, causing difficulties for the emergency services and annoyance for residents.

Bellway is only ever interested in short-term profit though, so it'll shrug off any responsibility for previous developments. It doesn't seem to have any interest in its legacy, it's only interested in forcing through the next poorly-designed development and then washing its hands of it.

Mr Trodden needs to properly respond to the council's concerns and not dishonestly say it is endorsing his development.

Name and address supplied

This situation is 'a joke'

I AGREE with many of the comments already made about this. Parking on the new estates in Milton Keynes is a joke and I really don't think the council cares.

I live in Oxley Park and the planning in place there hasn't even allowed for footpaths let alone adequate parking!

My property was sold to me with two off-road parking spaces at the rear. The problem being that the plans didn't take into account for people having space to open doors on their cars, lighting in the parking areas or for my neighbours to be able to get their car out if I had two cars in place. Shortsighted planning left right and centre.

I also challenge any councillor to spend one weekday evening round the shops in Oxley and not admit they have made a complete planning balls up. Before there is any more development the council needs to take a step back and take a sip of reality.

Nick Benning
Sent via email

Boulevard optimism

FOLLOWING your story 'All change in CMK' (*MK NEWS, February 12*).

I attended this workshop on behalf of Age UK Milton Keynes – and the growing population of older people in Milton Keynes.

The first thing to say is that no decisions were taken at the meetings. A 'direction of travel' was broadly agreed but, and it is a big but, any specific proposals would need detailed consideration and technical and financial feasibility evaluation before they could be considered for implementation.

The sort of issues that were discussed included the need to make Midsummer Boulevard more animated and attractive so that people were encouraged out of thecentre:mk to explore other parts of the city centre. That there should be a single overarching vision that would guide the redevelopment of the south side of the boulevard, including The Point and Food Centre sites, and development of the car park adjacent to The Point.

That we needed to get more activity to the eastern end (adjacent to John Lewis and linking to the theatre and gallery). That the boulevard might be narrowed in places to make it easier to cross – and that this would also consider pedestrian priority, surfaces, gradients and weather protection.

That we needed a proper bus-interchange in the city centre with weather protected stops, amenities such as public toilets and perhaps a café and effective signs so people know where to go and when their bus is coming.

That the market was a valuable asset that needed to be improved and enlarged, while not inhibiting the redevelopment of the area. We would like to see an accessible 'community hub' in this area where people could come for advice and information and a break from the hustle and bustle of the city centre.

The independent facilitator will be drawing up a report of the meeting for the participants to review and confirm as an accurate representation of what was discussed and it is likely that future meetings will be called to look at conclusions in more detail – and continue to develop a way forward that meets the aspirations of current and future residents and will also encourage developers to continue to invest in our city centre.

At the meeting's conclusion I felt there was a great optimism that common ground would be found that would lead to the revitalisation of this part of CMK.

Paul Griffiths
Sent via email

Be more open minded

I READ the article about Midsummer Boulevard with some amazement at the statements quoted.

I attended the three-day workshop along with more than 60 other stakeholders. From the beginning it was requested that participants be open minded and try and produce a vision for 2026.

The groups were mixed in such a way as to spread different outlooks across eight tables. Each table then presented their ideas and a technical team spent many hours to ensure a fair representation of all views were taken into consideration to produce a summary each day that the meeting could agree. I certainly did not hear confusion, but strong worded opinions at the last minute.

Ideas included the creation of public gardens and squares along the boulevard; the building of multi-storey car parks; a market hall; the redevelopment of the south side of Midsummer Boulevard; the building of a hotel at the Campbell Park end and many others including a transport link to the station by electric powered vehicles.

For bus users we were pleased that a consensus was reached by the meeting to support a bus interchange at Secklow Gate to replace the current situation that badly delays the 50 plus buses per hour passing through.

With regard to pedestrianisation, a recent document produced by the Urban Development Council, English Heritage and English Partnership quotes 'pedestrianisation schemes using high-quality materials is an economical way of upgrading an area and, provided schemes offer easy accessibility, good car parking and/or bus services and an improved and attractive environment, they can bring vitality back to city centres'.

If we hang on to the past, we will cloud the vision for the future. We have a responsibility to produce a clear plan so I hope that those participants who have made statements will be more willing to be open minded.

Peter Ballantyne
Chairman, Milton Keynes Bus Users Group

■ *For more on this see page 22*

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Walk the plank: Sally Wood and Paul Griffiths from Age UK Milton Keynes looking for golf teams

Tee time for golfing pirates

AHOY matey – get the whole crew together for Age UK Milton Keynes' Pirate Golf Day.

Join the charity at Pirate Island Adventure Golf at Abbey Hill Golf Club, Two Mile Ash, for a round of wacky golf that will be fun for all ages.

Teams of friends or family can compete to find out who is the best shipmate and who will win the gold.

The event costs £20 for three people including the game of crazy golf and refreshments. All proceeds from the event will go towards providing services for older people in Milton Keynes.

The course is fun and can be played in all weathers.

So start brushing up your skills for the event on Sunday, March 23 from 3-5.30pm. To book your place contact Sally Wood on 01908 557891 or email sally.wood@ageukmiltonkeynes.org.uk

'Misery' hostel set to stay open

BY JAMES AVERILL
james.averill@mk-news.co.uk

A YOUTH hostel that has been causing misery for near-by residents could remain open – after it submitted a new planning application.

Drinking, vandalism, anti-social behaviour and verbal abuse are some of the problems it is claimed are taking place at St Mungo's in St George's Street, Bletchely, which provides accommodation for homeless people aged 16-21.

A retrospective planning application for the continued use of the hostel was rejected by the development control committee of Milton Keynes Council in October.

But now a new planning application has been submitted – with the co-operation of the authority.

It would allow the council to re-commission the service for a fixed period until July 2015. After this it intends to discontinue it and dispose of the property.

West Bletchley Council will be considering its response at a meeting of its planning sub-committee on Monday March 10, but in a letter to residents explained that it had been seeking 'the closure of the hostel'.

Share your views on this: www.mkweb.co.uk

A spokesman for MK Council said: "We have agreed with St Mungo's – who run the service and building for us – for more staff to better support the young homeless people in their care."

MK and West Bletchley councillor Nigel Long said there was 'no evidence behaviour had improved' and residents were still keen to see it 'closed down'.

MKNEWS BRIEFS

Enter TeenStar UK

TALENTED young singers can now enter TeenStar - the UK's first singing competition for teenagers with a top prize of £5,000. Find out how to enter at www.mkweb.co.uk.

Olney Pancake Race

THERE will be flipping good fun at Olney Pancake Race on Shrove Tuesday (March 4). Entry forms for the ladies only race can be picked up from Natwest in Olney.

Car raffle winner

THE winner of the 25th MK Community Foundation Charity Car Raffle will be announced on March 10.

Man jailed for attacking teen

A MAN has been sentenced to two years' imprisonment for robbing a woman after he punched her in the face.

Lucas Chilvers, 23, of Colley Hill, Bradwell, *pictured right*, was sentenced at Aylesbury Crown Court on Thursday after pleading guilty at the same court on January 16.

Chilvers followed the 18-year-old woman after she left a bus near the Bancroft roundabout on October 23 – before pushing her in a bush and stealing her mobile phone.

Fine for noisy neighbour

A WOMAN was fined £150 by Milton Keynes magistrates on Friday for playing music so loud it could be heard 30 metres away.

Michaela Barnes-Austin, who was renting a home in Bletchley, pleaded guilty to breaching a statutory nuisance abatement notice. She was also ordered to pay £500 to Milton Keynes Council. A council spokesman said: "This could have been avoided if more consideration had been shown."

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Eye of the tiger: Ten-year-old Emily-May Palmer took third place in the modern dance contest

Arts festival's got talent

THE city's largest annual performing arts festival for amateurs started on Monday.

The 46th Milton Keynes Festival of the Arts is full of dance, drama and music performances from all levels and ages.

This year the music section alone has more than 650 performances, 90 per cent of which are by people under 18.

The event runs until March 9 at Walton High School, with choirs at the Ridgeway Centre. Each category is judged by an adjudicator professionally trained in that area.

Pat Haig, vice-chairman of the festival, said: "I think the word is getting around that it is a very good and friendly festival.

"Although it is a competition, the ethos is on performing rather than winning."

■ For the festival schedule visit www.mkweb.co.uk

Unknown man on wanted list

BY JAMES AVERILL
james.averill@mk-news.co.uk

A MAN who committed a sexual crime in the city is featured on a new 'most wanted' list for unknown criminals in the country.

The man was spotted performing a sex act in front of a woman in Walnut Drive, Fenny Stratford, at 9.10am on January 29, 2013.

An e-fit of the offender, described as white, in his mid 20s and of tall, slim or medium build with dark hair, has been released, *right*.

He was wearing a blue motorbike-style jacket with badges on.

Since its launch in 2005, the Most Wanted page on the national Crimestoppers website has featured more than 10,000 appeals. And to mark this milestone it has launched the Unknowns Gallery – allowing police to upload images of individuals they need names for.

It's hoped this will make it easier for the public to put names to faces without having to reveal their own identity.

Crimestoppers' regional manager for Thames Valley, Julia Hughes, said: "The Unknowns Gallery will help to build on this platform with a view to improving arrest rates in all areas of crime."

MKNEWS BRIEFS

Advice after burglary

POLICE have warned residents to hide their car keys as they believe it's what thieves were looking for in a burglary in Caldecotte.

The burglars broke into the house in Martell Close between February 10 and 12 but did not take anything. If you saw anything call 101.

Sounds of Olly Murs

AN OLLY Murs tribute act will entertain audiences at a charity curry night. The MacIntyre event at The Purple Mango in Walnut Tree will include dinner and entertainment. The meal, on Tuesday at 7pm, costs £20. For tickets call 01908 230100.

Cheaper fuel bills for elderly

MILTON Keynes Council is planning to use modern technology to help reduce fuel bills for elderly residents.

Low-carbon and renewable fuel boilers will be installed in all 27 sheltered housing schemes owned by the council. They will replace the communal boilers that need changing over the next few years. The new boilers include combined bio-fuels and zero-carbon opportunities like solar power and air and ground source heat pumps.

Work starts to dual A421

WORK has started on dualling the A421 from the M1 to the Kingston roundabout.

Areas around the road from Fen Farm to Eagle Farm roundabouts and the Kingston roundabout have started to be cleared.

A council meeting on March 4 will decide which contractor gets the £34.5million job.

Construction will run from July to mid-2015 and leader of Milton Keynes Council (MKC), Andrew Geary, said further improvements may happen.

Read an interview with MKC's head of transport **www.mkweb.co.uk**

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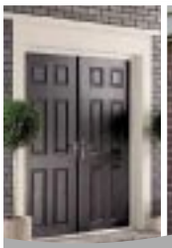

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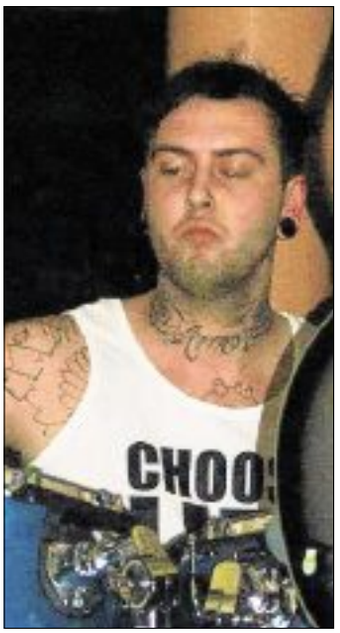
No decision for jury in Joe trial



Popular: Joe Kent was well known on the MK scene playing in Roots in Revolution

BY JAMES AVERILL
james.averill@mk-news.co.uk

THE jury in the Joe Kent manslaughter trial has failed to reach a verdict – potentially paving the way for a retrial.

Joe, 24, was a popular musician and tattoo artist who died after being punched outside Xscape in January last year.

Samir Bostan, 26, of Wolston Meadow, Middleton, had been charged with manslaughter, but the jury could not reach a verdict during the three-week trial at Luton Crown Court.

Bostan was cleared of assaulting Joe's brother, Matthew, but he was found guilty of assaulting Mr Kent's friend, Andrew Curzon-Berners.

Bostan's cousin, Hamza Noor, 24, of Ranelagh Road, Wembley, was cleared of assaulting Mr Curzon-Berners.

Joe and his new wife Emma had been out celebrating her 22nd birthday with family and friends on January 12 last year.

At the end of a night out they went to KFC at Xscape where Mr Kent received two punches to the head. The second blow caused a fatal injury from which he died.

But the five men and seven women on the jury were discharged at the end of last week and the prosecution will decide on Friday whether a retrial will take place.

Prosecutor Iain Wicks said the probability would be that the case was heard again.

Bostan had argued in the trial that he had punched Joe in 'self defence'.

He had told the courtroom: "If I didn't hit him, he was going to strike me as far as I was concerned.

"I hit him with my right hand to move him back and he fell down."

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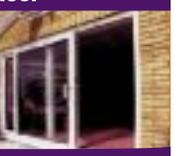

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Recovered: Christopher Walker slept rough in Campbell Park during his period of addiction. Now, after going cold turkey, he is part of a team trying to help people to overcome their habits

Help for addicts

BY JAMES AVERILL
james.averill@mk-news.co.uk

A RECOVERED drug user who shoplifted three times a day to fund his habit is keen to help current addicts battle their demons.

Christopher Walker is now a paid worker at MK Recovery Service (CRI) based in Netherfield, which offers support to those with drug and alcohol problems.

But the 44-year-old from New Bradwell – who spent two years in prison from 2010 for shoplifting to fund his heroin addiction – believes there are still huge numbers of drug users in MK who don't realise help is available to them.

He said: "We have 700 clients and we could easily double it.

"I've seen how drugs tear families apart. I would see my son in the city as I was about to shoplift to fund my habit, I couldn't look at him."

He has since patched things up with his family and has turned his attention to helping others. He wants to promote a new Family and Friends Support Group that helps people who are related to or close friends of drug addicts.

More advice will be available at The Milton Keynes Recovery Forum, at Church of Christ the Cornerstone, from 2.30pm on February 27.

To attend, call Christopher on 01908 250730.

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Looking to save £14m in budget

BY JAMES AVERILL
james.averill@mk-news.co.uk

THE leader of Milton Keynes Council has said that frontline services will be maintained – despite cuts to their budget.

With the 2014/15 budget set to be decided tonight, recommendations include no rise in council tax precepts or car parking charges.

The council has identified £14.75million worth of savings to negate decreasing levels of funding from central government.

A £1.3million cut to adult health and social care has been put forward, including the decommissioning of Fletcher House – from where support programmes on substance misuse are operated.

There will also be £1.5million slashed from planning and transport and £1.8million from education.

Mr Geary said: "We are committed to maintaining a high level of public service without affecting frontline services."

But Liberal Democrat leader Cllr Douglas McCall does not believe the budget is 'transparent enough'.

He said: "Most of the cuts are hidden as 'efficiency savings', it's all smoke and mirrors.

"The Conservatives need to be up front and transparent as to where the cuts are rather than hiding behind technical jargon."

And Peter Marland, the city's Labour leader, wants to see a £150,000 investment in a community transport scheme.

The Labour group also wants £1.5million spent on repairing roads over the next 10 years – with an extra £75,000 in 2014.

Cllr Marland said: "We seek to provide a balance between ensuring we support vital public services but face the reality of the budget cut being forced on the council."

Money talks: The budget will be discussed at a meeting tonight

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In two minds: Campbell Park parish councillor and Springfield Institute treasurer David Pafford says the renovation of the Springfield Centre is great for the area, but he hopes the youth club will still be able to use the renovated building once work has been completed, which could be between May and June

Club's future unsure

BY SCOTT KIRK
scott.kirk@mk-news.co.uk

A YOUTH club that was targeted by arsonists two years ago is facing an uncertain future once again.

The Springfield Initiative has boosted its numbers back up to between 20 and 30 people three times a week following the attack in April 2012.

The Springfield Centre where it is based is about to undergo a refurbishment costing between £70,000 and £80,000. The work is expected to take four to five weeks and could begin in April.

It will see the hall and kitchen areas revamped plus a new disabled toilet and storage space put in place.

It will be funded by the precept, Campbell Park Parish Council reserves and potential funding sources such as WREN.

While the renovation is good news for the centre, it could lead to the club having to move.

If the Initiative does stay at the venue, it may have to pack up heavy equipment, such as computers, every time it uses it because the parish council wants other users to be able to take advantage of the facilities.

Share your views on this: www.mkweb.co.uk

Treasurer David Pafford says it isn't practical for youth workers to constantly move this equipment and it could lead to them needing a new home after 18 years.

"We want to make the building fit for purpose," said Mr Pafford, who is also a member of the parish council. "But when it does open we will have to see what the rest of the parish council will let the youth club bring in."

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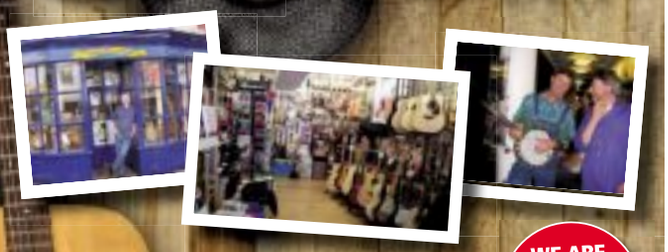

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Equestrian event to face its final hurdle

BY SCOTT KIRK
scott.kirk@mk-news.co.uk

AN EQUESTRIAN centre's horse trials which featured Olympic competitors will face its final fence this year when organisers pull the plug.

Milton Keynes Equestrian Centre's owners, Stephen and Fiona Gifkins, said they cannot afford to continue running the event and that interest wasn't strong enough for them to renew the trials next year.

Three-star eventer Colina Pickles told Horse and Hounds magazine she would miss the trials.

"What a shame," she said. "The cross-country is true-run in distance, terrain and obstacles and my horses come away confident."

Olympic rider Vittoria Panizzon is also a regular at the venue.

She said: "The classes are encouraging for youngsters, with flat arenas and good going," she said.

Mr Gifkins said: "We are stopping because of various reasons.

"The horse industry is suffering badly because people aren't spending money and that's just the way it is.

"The finance of running the event is going up so it is not cost effective.

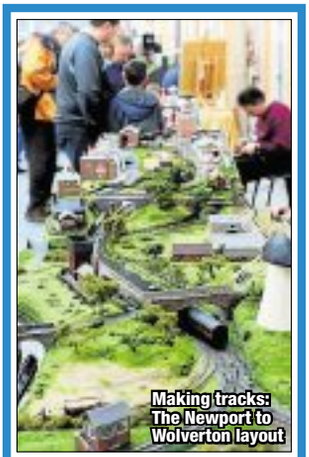
"We'd like to thank everybody who has supported the trials over the years."

Mr Gifkins said it was part of the business model to stop running the trials regardless of whether an application to build a wind turbine at the Hanslope site, which would have generated income for the company, was approved by Milton Keynes Council. The authority has received hundreds of letters of objection to the proposal.

"Whether we got the wind turbine or not, the event would have been stopped," he added.

The livery part of the business will continue as normal.

Share your views on this: www.mkweb.co.uk



Making tracks: The Newport to Wolverton layout

All aboard!

A RECORD 2,300 people attend this year's Model Railway Exhibition at Shenley Brook End School on Saturday.

Terry Silver, MK Model Railway Society's exhibition manager, said: "We are delighted that so many people were able to enjoy our exhibition."

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£1.42m project 'for community'

BY JAMES AVERILL
james.averill@mk-news.co.uk

A COMMUNITY centre is set to be built in Shenley Brook End to act as a base for several groups and a church.

Shenley Christian Fellowship wants the building to be a new home for its church – as it currently holds its services in Shenley Brook End School's theatre.

The fellowship is currently raising money for the £1.42million project and the church will be borrowing £520,000 to add to the £330,000 which had already been raised by November.

It is hoped that subject to planning permission – an application could be submitted to Milton Keynes Council within the next few weeks – the building work will start next year to be completed by the following summer.

The venue, which will be called the Oak Tree Centre, is set to be based at the junction of Wallinger Drive and Manifold Lane. Residents attended a meeting at the end of last month to view the proposal, which includes conference rooms, a sports hall, cafe, kitchen and parking spaces for up to 100 cars.

An artist's impression: How the Oak Tree Centre could look

But the fellowship needs to raise an additional £570,000 to make the scheme a reality.

Allan Vogel is a member of the church building team. He said: "We're building this primarily for community use and local groups such as the scouts could all potentially use it.

"There is a lack of community facilities in the area and we hope that it can act as a drop-in centre for everyone."

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It's the first pint for the Prince George

BY JAMES AVERILL
james.averill@mk-news.co.uk

A NEW pub that is the first to be opened in honour of Prince George of Cambridge will welcome members of the public from tomorrow.

The Prince George, in Tattenhoe, will be opened in tribute to the royal baby born in July, who is third in line to the throne after his grandfather Charles and dad William, Duke of Cambridge.

And while the boozer is making the headlines for its royal connection, it will also be offering some much needed facilities to the Tattenhoe area.

The pub's general manager, Jeremy Bates, 37, told MK NEWS: "Tattenhoe doesn't have a local centre like most of the other places in Milton Keynes.

"The whole community is really excited for the pub to open as it will give them somewhere to meet socially and go out."

Jeremy, who will co-manage the venue with his partner Kerry Hancock, took on the challenge to run the pub – operated by Hertfordshire brewers McMullen & Sons – after moving from Essex.

He added: "We're keen for the pub to be a huge part of the community and we've been in talks with local groups about how we can help."

The Prince George, in Portishead Drive, opens at noon tomorrow.

It will also be offering hot food daily, with the venue specialising in chicken and steak grills.

Cheers: Jeremy Bates and Kerry Hancock outside the new pub

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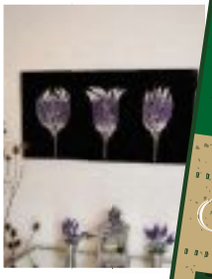

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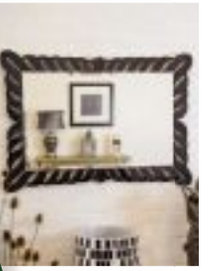

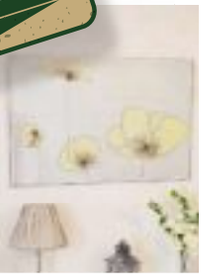

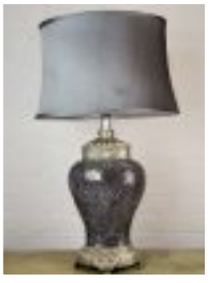

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Just consider this recent case of ours with a client who has a number of retirement annuity policies (old style personal pensions) with Royal London.

The gentleman concerned is aged 71. He is in poor health. He has 7 pension plans. They are all identical polices with retirement dates between his age 73 and 74. They are all invested in with profits funds and all offer a high guaranteed annuity rate of about 15%.

The annual return on his pensions has been just 0.5% for the last 10 years. If he takes his pensions early he loses the guaranteed annuities. If he dies before his selected retirement ages of 73-74 his pension funds will return just £10,000 to his estate even though they are worth £52,000. If he survives until the policy maturity dates and chooses the guaranteed

Tony Byrne
Chartered and Certified Financial Planner
Author of Wealth Magic

annuities his estate will receive nothing when he subsequently dies. This is daylight robbery!!!

To add insult to injury Royal London for some time has been valuing one of his plans at £40,000 rather than £15,000. An over valuation of £25,000.

He has stressed that he wants the tax free lump sum now but doesn't want or need the pension income. He will qualify for an impaired life annuity anyway which may give him an annuity of 10% or more if he decides to transfer his pensions elsewhere.

In the meantime he is considering claiming compensation against Royal London. I think he has a good case.

Don't become a victim of a financial mugging.

If you are approaching retirement and/or considering early retirement and need advice why not get in touch?

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'Let's all unite over boulevard'

BY JAMES AVERILL
james.averill@mk-news.co.uk

GROUPS in Milton Keynes are being urged to work together to come up with a plan for the future of the heart of the city.

Paul Williams, a ward councillor in Campbell Park, believes the only way for the city centre to move forward is for everyone to work together.

As revealed by MK NEWS last week, a workshop involving key stakeholders has looked at the idea of pedestrianising Midsummer Boulevard.

But pressure groups, including Xplain and Urban Eden, have slammed such a drastic change being made to one of Milton Keynes' key grid roads.

And readers on our website – **www.mkweb.co.uk** – appeared to agree in our online poll. At the time of going to press 517 people had voted against the idea, with 126 in favour.

But councillor Williams wants to put an end to previous arguments and is calling on all groups to unite.

He told MK NEWS: "Midsummer Boulevard isn't working as it currently is at the moment.

"We all need to come together to work out what's best for this city and consider the views of everyone, whatever they are."

Here come the girls: Members of the MK Dons ladies team enjoy the chocolate fountain

For the latest Dons news: Visit www.mkweb.co.uk

Record at Ladies Big Day

RECORD numbers turned out to MK Dons Ladies Big Day on Saturday.

There were 752 tickets sold in clubRed for the MK Dons v Oldham Athletic match – a record attendance for a league game.

But some people were disappointed Clarins was not there and some display tables were empty.

An MK Dons spokesman said: "This was an oversight on our part. We had extra tables for exhibitors and Elemis provided the treatments."

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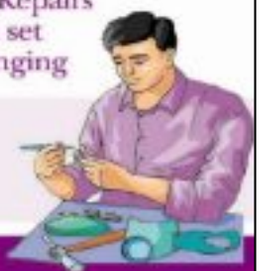
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Rebecca snaps her way into the top ten

BY SCOTT KIRK
scott.kirk@mk-news.co.uk

A PHOTOGRAPHER has won an international competition with pictures she took of her son.

At its annual awards ceremony, the Guild of Professional Photographers named Rebecca Spencer, mother of seven-year-old Theo, as winner of one of its Top Ten awards for 2013.

The guild is a highly respected photographic body dedicated to enhancing skills in photography.

Rebecca said: "I only picked up a camera originally as I wanted to capture the key moments in my son's life and it has grown into something that I never could have dreamed of.

"What makes this so special to me is that my son was the model in each of my entries, which I guess made my submissions unique."

Guild director Steve Thirsk said: "With nearly 10,000 images assessed from the UK, Europe and further afield, it is a testament to Rebecca that she has received a coveted position in the top 10 in her first year of competition."

Rebecca has worked in the NHS for 20 years and has no plans to turn photography into her career – instead she wants to help others learn to take better photos of their own children.

She added: "My aim is to inspire other parents to improve the photos they take.

"I think we all enjoy looking back at photos of our childhood and I would encourage any parent to pick up a camera and start capturing those memories now."

Snap: Rebecca Spencer with her son Theo

FOR A GALLERY OF REBECCA'S PICTURES VISIT OUR WEBSITE
WWW.MKWEB.CO.UK

Call for smarter teachers in MK

BY SCOTT KIRK
scott.kirk@mk-news.co.uk

A LECTURER has backed plans to smarten up the classroom.

Ofsted chief inspector Sir Michael Winslow says that teachers and lecturers should wear 'business-like attire' and Jon Boyle, journalism lecturer at Milton Keynes College, agrees.

The education watchdog fears that teachers may be setting a bad example to students by not wearing the proper clothes.

Mr Boyle attaches such importance to the issue that students who dress smartly for presentations can gain extra credit in their marks.

"I totally agree that as a lecturer or a teacher, you should set a good example to the students," said Mr Boyle.

"I think students respect you more when you dress smartly and it sets a good example for when they leave school and seek employment.

"If teachers dress scruffily students might dress scruffily as well.

> Lecturers and teachers should set a good example to the students.
>
> **Jon Boyle**
> **Journalism lecturer at MK College**

"There needs to be differentiation between students and teachers."

The 'more business-like attire' is likely to include a focus on suits, ties and shirts for men and smart skirts or dresses for women, with jeans and t-shirts frowned upon.

A poll by MKWeb this week was relatively split on the issue of whether teachers should wear a uniform – with 39 votes for and 30 against.

One voter who favoured uniforms for teachers said: "I've always thought that if children wear a uniform because teachers say it reflects favourably on the school then so too should teachers."

But one who voted against the idea said: "This is very outdated and is it really necessary for Ofsted to rule on it? Surely each school has a dress code relevant to its setting. Leave it to them!"

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Read all about it: Children's ward staff with the books

Books presented to children's ward

PATIENTS on the children's ward at Milton Keynes Hospital had some new books delivered this week as part of a Community Book Pledge.

The scheme, coordinated by Usborne Books at Home and School, will help distract patients and enable parents to read bedtime stories.

Laura Clarke, play assistant on the ward, said: "The books are going to make a lovely addition to the ward."

Bowls club are happy to move

BY SCOTT KIRK
scott.kirk@mk-news.co.uk

A BOWLS club will be moving premises after planning permission was granted for a site that developers have wanted to use for years.

Connelly Homes will be converting the Greens Hotel in Russell Street, Woburn Sands, into 29 apartments, six houses and community space with associated parking.

It means Woburn Sands Bowls Club, which uses the site, will have to move to Aspley Guise, but as they will be getting a new facility built by the developers, secretary Les Pearce said the 100 members were delighted.

"This move will most certainly benefit the club," he said. "We will have brand new premises and better facilities so we're happy to move and we're looking forward to it."

He added that work should be completed in time for their 2015 bowls season.

Developers have tried to build on the site for some time. An application by Connelly Homes was refused by the development control committee of Milton Keynes Council in October, but it won its appeal against the decision and submitted a new application.

An application to convert and extend Greens Hotel into a nursing home was accepted in 2009 on appeal, which drew criticism from residents and Woburn Sands Town Council and was later dropped.

Greens Hotel refused to comment.

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Do you have a home compost bin and don't know how to use it or perhaps you're composting and not getting the results you expected? Or if you'd simply like to find out more about home composting, come along to our free home composting workshop at the Hanson Centre on Saturday 5th April to get the best advice from our composting expert.

If there are any particular issues you want covered, please let us know. The workshop starts at 10am and will finish around 11.30am. There will also be some fun activities for children.

To reserve your place or for more information email: **yourwaste@milton-keynes.gov.uk** with your contact details or call 01908 252570.

Here in Milton Keynes, our weekly food and garden waste scheme provides a quick and easy way to get rid of organic waste - but by buying a home compost bin you can become a greener gardener and help your own garden to thrive.

If you would like to buy a home compost bin, now is the best time to do it as prices will increase in April. Milton Keynes Council has teamed up with compost bin provider Evergreener who sells the bins on the council's behalf – see the advertisement below for details. You can access their web page via the council website **www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/compost** or go to **www.getcomposting.com**

Free Home Composting Workshop
Where: Hanson Centre, Wolverton Road, Great Linford MK14 5AH
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Book online for bulky waste

You can now book online to have large household items collected from your property - visit www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/bulkywaste for more details. This new service will cut telephone waiting times and enable residents to book at any time of day.
The service costs £10 for 1-5 items, £20 for 6-10 items and £30 for 11-15 items. For more than 15 items, fixtures and fittings, building materials or garden waste, residents need to call our Environmental Services Contact Centre on 01908 252570 to arrange for a quote - a minimum charge of £40 will apply.

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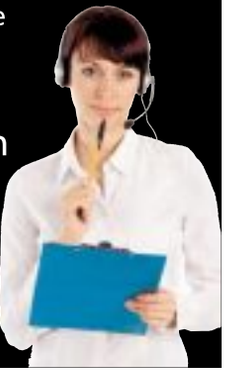

Deaf book wins praise for mum

Inspiration: Hameeda Raj was inspired to write the book to help her deaf son Amaan

BY JAMES AVERILL
james.averill@mk-news.co.uk

A MOTHER has turned into a successful author – after writing a book specifically for children who are deaf.

Hameeda Raj, 38, from Wavendon Gate, wrote the book after seeing the lack of reading materials available for her 10-year-old son Amaan, who was diagnosed as clinically deaf at the age of two.

But now Hameeda is beginning to catch the attention of the deaf world by writing 'Ali and Aidy Go to the Beach' – the tale of a little boy and his hearing aid – which has specific sign images above the text to help hard of hearing children read it.

Hameeda told MK NEWS: "The idea came to me three years ago.

"My son's hearing loss affects his speech and language so while he is very vocal and communicates with speech, there are a lot of words and their meanings that he doesn't know or understand.

"The book and its sign illustrations help deaf children enjoy the story."

Ali and Aidy Go to the Beach, which is self published, has already shifted 200 copies and received rave reviews, and now Hameeda will be printing 200 more.

"There aren't many resources out there for deaf children to enjoy and the feedback to the idea has been absolutely incredible.

"It's a book that any family with a hard of hearing child can sit down and enjoy."

For more information about the book, visit www.deaference.com

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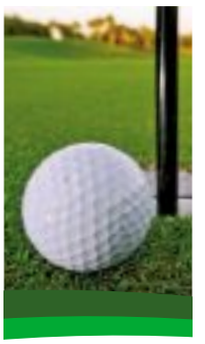

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Trying to find Rugby World Cup volunteers

BY SCOTT KIRK
scott.kirk@mk-news.co.uk

RUGBY officials have got the ball rolling in their bid to find volunteers to help at next year's world cup tournament.

The England rugby 2015 organising committee has launched its national volunteer programme 'The Pack', which will take place for one month from March 17.

It is looking for 6,000 volunteers who will help deliver the Rugby World Cup 2015 across England and in Cardiff, including three games at stadiummk.

Volunteers from rugby clubs will make up 75 per cent of the overall number.

Andrew Geary, leader of Milton Keynes Council, said: "The world cup is getting closer and the closer it gets the more excited we get.

"Milton Keynes had a great take-up when the Olympics was on and I see no reason why the Rugby World Cup would be any different."

Score: Celebrating Rugby World Cup matches being played at stadiummk. Volunteers are now needed for the 2015 tournament

The Pack also aims to attract volunteers who are new to rugby, with the aim of retaining them beyond 2015 as part of the tournament's legacy.

Volunteers will play a key role in the six-week tournament with a range of roles, including transport, meet and greet, accreditation and way-finding.

More than 2,000 clubs will nominate one or two of their members to take part in 'try outs' throughout 2014.

The general public can register their interest in the volunteers section of www.rugbyworldcup.com

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RoboCop redo respectable – but original is better

THIS Robo-reboot delivers a darker story wrapped neatly in spectacular graphics, but fails to capture the witty spirit of the 1987 original.

The year is 2028 and OmniCorp have their sights set on bringing their successful defence drones to US soil. When Alex Murphy, a morally driven cop, is injured OmniCorp seize their chance and transform him into RoboCop.

Swedish actor Joel Kinnaman holds RoboCop's steely manner down while still managing to offer us a hint of emotion as, unlike the original, the film still leans towards the family drama.

But the story falls short when it comes to the villains who fail to rouse any hate or thirst for a tasty comeuppance from the audience.

It's too easy for RoboCop to solve crimes as his successful seek and destroy scenario makes the film dry and predicable.

The film does succeed with Michael Keaton who sits comfortably in his role as the Omni-Corp CEO, who never slows down to consider the morals of his methods.

His voice of reason comes from Norton, the film's moral centre, who tests RoboCop to his limits in the name of science but is still driven by human compassion.

The action is exciting to watch too with a new streamlined RoboCop that doesn't wander too far from the original look. The new reboot is a fun watch but despite its shiny packaging, it fails to improve on the original.

★★★

Rachael West

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MKlife

Columnists | Competitions | Out and about

RECORDING artist Jamie Stimpson talks about putting Milton Keynes on the music map for 2014

"IT'S February, it's cold and a bit miserable, but myself and Mister Vee are back stronger than ever!

"We have been in the studio for the last four weeks working on new material for 2014 as a follow up to our debut album Judgement Day.

"We've also been planning out our year and spreading the word about our music far and wide.

"We have plans to release a few singles this year which will be tied in with some important gigs across the UK. We are pleased to announce we have already been confirmed to headline MK Pride for 2014 after it had a year's rest in 2013.

"We cannot wait to get back onto the stage to hopefully emulate last year's successes. We will not give up in our quest to put music on the map for Milton Keynes, so please keep spreading the word.

"If you haven't heard of our music before, then you can now listen for free at www.soundcloud.com/jsmvofficial

homehelp

MILTON Keynes is famous for welcoming families who want to begin a new life in the city.

And we know that loads of you will be looking to make improvements to your homes.

Or perhaps you have been living in the same property for some time and want to spruce it up.

The National Homebuilding & Renovating Show will help you on your journey.

Whether you're adding an extension, updating your kitchen, replacing drafty windows or even building your own home from scratch – this show will cover all the bases.

There will also be help on hand at the show, which is being held at the NEC in Birmingham from March 27-30.

Experts of the industry – including award-winning architects, builders, designers and planning wizards – will provide you with all the product information and inspiration you'll need to create your own, bespoke living space.

So whatever questions you may have, they will have the answer to help turn your plans – whatever they are – into a reality.

MK LIFE has teamed up directly with the show and we have eight pairs of tickets to give away to our readers.

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A) Earls Court, London
B) NEC, Birmingham
C) Trafford Centre, Manchester
D) thecentre:mk, Milton Keynes

The complimentary tickets are valid for one day only from March 27-30 and must be claimed by midnight on Wednesday, March 26.

To enter visit www.mkweb.co.uk/competitions You can also send your answer, name, address and daytime phone number to MK NEWS, 1 Diamond Court, Fox Milne, MK15 0DU by noon on Wednesday, February 26. The editor's decision is final

pasttimes

ACTORS will take visitors to Bletchley Park back in time this half-term, bringing the uniquely historic buildings to life.

Visitors of all ages will be part of the performance as the actors, immersed in their characters, interact with them as though they too were working at the Government Code & Cypher School HQ back in February 1941.

Tickets cost £15 for adults, £13 for concessions, £9 for children aged 12-16 and under 12s go free. The park is open from 9.30am to 4pm daily.

liamwilliams

EDINBURGH Comedy Award Best Newcomer nominee Liam Williams will be bringing his solo debut to That Time Of The Month Comedy Club.

Following critical acclaim at last year's Edinburgh Fringe and two sold out London runs, he is seen as British comedy's bright young thinker.

Following two widely lauded shows as one third of cult sketch group Sheeps, Liam's solo work is set for the maiden tour.

His stand-up combines caustic criticism with playful one-liners, a measured and subdued method of delivery and a heavy dose of the absurd.

"The show is quite autobiographical," said the comedian from Leeds.

"It's about my relationship with my parents and then this massive culture shock of moving to London and putting some sort of life together."

Tickets for the gig, at The Cannon, Newport Pagnell, on Sunday, March 2 at 7pm, cost £6.60 at www.wegottickets.com

puppetmagic

HAVE your children ever wanted to make a puppet and learn how to bring it to life? Well this workshop could be right up their street.

They will be working with Shelly Atton, co-founder and artistic director of Moon On A Stick Puppet Theatre Company, which is currently enjoying success in London with its show The Mermaid Of Zennor.

The one day workshop will show them how to make a simple tabletop puppet and the skills involved in bringing it to life.

As an actor Shelly will inspire their puppet making skills and take them through the first steps of becoming a puppeteer.

The class will take place at Westbury Arts Centre in Shenley Lodge on Saturday from 10am-4pm and is suitable for ages 11 upwards. It costs £25 per person and places can be booked at admin@westburyartscentre.co.uk

classicclapton

MAKING a triumphant return to The Stables for a fifth time is the world's number one tribute to rock legend Eric Clapton.

Classic Clapton were formed in 1985 and in frontman Mike Hall, **pictured**, they have not only a cracking lookalike, but also an extremely talented performer playing Clapton classics such as Layla and Crossroads.

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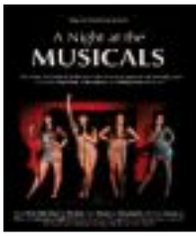

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the stables

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kidsfilms

MK GALLERY is hosting two films the kids will love during the half-term break.

Both movies take place on Friday, with the first at 4pm and the second at 7pm.

First up is the fairytale animation Eleanor's Secret, which is about a boy who reads about stories which come to life. When his parents start to sell the books off, their lives are in danger unless Nat learns to read in time.

After that comes Wolf Children, which follows Hana, a woman who falls in love with a Wolf Man and gives birth to two half human, half wolf children.

Tickets cost £5, or £3 for concessions, and to pre-book phone 01908 676900.

animalantics

'IF MY pet could talk, what would it say?'

It's a question all dog, cat and any other pet owners have wondered and the subject of talking animals is one being covered in the musical Wicked at Milton Keynes Theatre.

Doctor Dillamond is a goat who can talk in the production, which is on at the theatre until March 8, and Elphaba is on a quest to try to find out why the animals of the Emerald City and beyond cannot talk any more, including the winged monkeys.

But what we want to know is: If your pet could talk, what would it say?

The reader with the best answer will win Wicked merchandise, including a poster, CD, mug and t-shirt.

Tickets for Wicked start at £20 and to book go to www.atgtickets.com or call the box office on 0844 871 7652.

WIN Wicked CD, mug, poster and t-shirt

To enter visit www.mkweb.co.uk/competitions You can also send your answer, name, address and daytime phone number to MK NEWS, 1 Diamond Court, Fox Milne, MK15 0DU by noon on Wednesday, February 26 The editor's decision is final

legendaryzelda

THE first Zelda game I ever played was the wonderful Ocarina of Time on the N64 over a decade ago and since then I have been absolutely hooked on the series, writes Scott Kirk.

After what I felt was a bit of a slow beginning, Skyward Sword is starting to pick up. There is no doubt the Wii Motion Plus makes the game more challenging. The game has all the elements you know and love, like the character Link, searching for Princess Zelda, the mind-boggling temples with their puzzles to solve and bad guys to kill.

If you like your games to be easy, you might struggle with Zelda. But if you like a challenge, I would say get involved!

Your essential guide to events big and small throughout Milton Keynes

MK life HOT PICKS

getarty

FAMILIES can enjoy fruit and vegetable printing at MK Gallery.

The event on Tuesday is part of the gallery's Start the Art programme and is inspired by the print-making exhibition in its Project Space.

The creative class for all ages is from 11am to noon and places are free but must be reserved at www.mkgallery.org or by calling 01908 676900.

greasefever

YOUTH theatre group Rare Productions will be bringing the one show that you want to Stantonbury Theatre.

Audiences can fall in love all over again with Danny and Sandy and the rest of the Rydell High School gang. If you were born to hand jive don't miss Grease from tomorrow until Saturday at 7.30pm. There is also a matinee on Saturday at 2.30pm.

Tickets cost from £12-£14 from www.stantonburytheatre.co.uk or 01908 324466.

got an exciting event?
email editor@mk-news.co.uk
see our online gig guide
www.mkweb.co.uk

beerfestival

The 11th Cock and Bull Real Beer Festival will be held this weekend.

Visitors can enjoy a huge variety of beers, ciders, Fairtrade wines and food at the free event at the York House Centre, Stony Stratford, from noon to 11pm on Saturday and Sunday.

Live music from Palmerston can also be enjoyed on Saturday at 8.30pm. And on Friday from 8pm there will be open mic 'spoken word' with poetry, storytelling and more.

musicalmedley

ENJOY A Night At The Musicals at Wilton Hall.

The show on Friday, February 28 will take you on a magical ride with leading ladies from the West End.

From West Side Story to Wicked, from Disney to Dreamgirls and from Grease to Glee, it will be a journey through the world's greatest musicals.

Tickets for the night, which starts at 7pm, cost £23, including a buffet, from 01908 372277.

the gym

£10.99

Limited offer - £10.99 a month!

Join online now:

Open 24/7

No contract

Free parking

Open to view 24 February

Check out our Gym in:

Milton Keynes

Find us on Elder Gate
Phoenix House, Milton Keynes MK9 1BE

Hurry – Limited offer!

The Gym Group, an award winning affordable gym chain, is opening in Milton Keynes on 3 March. We offer premium fitness facilities at budget prices in a bright and welcoming environment. Come and see us – we are open to view 24 February.

Hurry… join online now before The Gym opens for only £10.99 a month.

thegymgroup.com

Terms and conditions apply. Offer can be withdrawn without notice. Parking T & C's apply. £20 joining fee may apply. Images are representative of other sites nationwide.

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EXECUTIVE HOMES

www.mkweb.co.uk/property

MKNEWS

Powered by Zoopla.co.uk

PROPERTY NEWS

Wednesday, February 19, 2014

Newport Pagnell

WILSON Peacock exclusively presents this four-bedroom detached family home in the sought-after road of Flora Thompson Drive in Newport Pagnell.

The property benefits from a private cul-de-sac location, a remote double garage, en-suite, conservatory, refitted bathrooms, cloakroom, private garden, driveway and much more.

It also benefits from being on the Poets estate, which is a lovely sought-after area of Newport Pagnell and boasts a variety of local amenities, plus it is in the catchment area for the award-winning Portfields School.

Newport Pagnell is famous for its historic buildings, such as the 16th century public houses, stunning countryside scenery, the Iron Bridge and horticulture.

It also offers fantastic walks alongside the River Great Ouse, quick access to the M1 and shopping in Milton Keynes.

To book a viewing of this property, which is on the market for £350,000, call the Wilson Peacock team on 01908 611388.

Alternatively you can pop into the office in High Street, Newport Pagnell.

The team is also keen to hear from anyone interested in selling or buying a home in Newport Pagnell.

Do you know what your property is worth?

Wouldn't you like to know EXACTLY how much your property is worth?

Call us now for your FREE no obligation valuation on 01908 303664

RHYEN JORDAN
ESTATE AGENTS
Gloucester House 399 Silbury Blvd Milton Keynes MK9 2AH

Challenge Taylors Executive Homes!

We will sell your home in 6 weeks or give you £1000 off our normal selling fee!

SALES & LETTINGS TAYLORS EXECUTIVE HOMES MILTON KEYNES CALL US ON 01908 850964

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TAYLORS EXECUTIVE HOMES MILTON KEYNES
Call us on 01908 850964

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Moulsoe

- Beautiful Thatched Cottage
- Four Bedrooms
- Four Reception Rooms
- Three Bathrooms
- Kitchen/Breakfast Room
- Village Location
- South Facing Rear Garden with Views
- Period Charm with Modern Facilities
- Oil Fired Central Heating
- Mains Drainage
- Garage with Storage Room Above
- Guest Wing

Wonderfully presented four/five bedroom character thatched cottage situated on a plot of approximately 0.5 acres, set well back from Cranfield Road in the highly sought after village of Moulsoe, close to Milton Keynes with excellent travel links to London.

£950,000

propertywide.co.uk Zoopla.co.uk rightmove.co.uk PrimeLocation.com
The Property Ombudsman

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Furzton

- Detached Property
- Five Bedrooms
- Four Reception Rooms
- Five Bathrooms
- Feature Balcony
- Double Garage
- Landscaped Gardens
- Views over Furzton

Detached Property
Five Bedrooms
Four Reception Rooms
Five Bathrooms

£825,000

Loughton

- Detached Georgian Property
- Four Bedrooms
- Five Reception Rooms
- Four Bathrooms
- Garden
- Garage

An exceptional Georgian style property available for sale in the very popular location of 'Loughton'. This sizeable family home has a very large and private back garden and also boasts a double garage and parking.

£700,000

PROPERTY
Auctions

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Woolstone

- Detached Property
- Four Bedrooms
- Three Reception Rooms
- Two Bathrooms
- Two Conservatories
- Well Presented

This four bedroom detached executive residence is situated in a cul-de-sac location. The property comprises lounge, dining room, study, kitchen/breakfast room, utility room, cloakroom and two conservatories.

£500,000

Caldecotte

- Detached Property
- Four Bedrooms
- Four Reception Rooms
- Re-fitted Kitchen
- Double Garage
- Off Road Parking

An exceptional four bedroom detached family property in the popular residential area of Caldecotte. Situated within close proximity of Caldecotte Lake this well presented property is in catchment for the highly regarded Walton High school.

£500,000

Milton Keynes

- Link Detached Property
- Four Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Two Bathrooms
- Barn Conversion
- Off Road Parking

Located in the sought after location of Pound Lane, North Crawley. Taylors Estate Agents are delighted to offer for sale this fantastic barn conversion offers ample living space and countryside views.

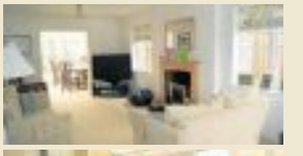
£475,000

Medbourne

- Detached Property
- Four Bedrooms
- Three Reception Rooms
- Three Bathrooms
- Rear Garden
- Driveway & Garage

A very well presented four bedroom, double fronted, detached property with stunning atrium style kitchen and dining room. This property overlooks open parkland to the front which in turn lies next to the beautiful Shenley Woods.

£375,000



propertywide.co.uk Zoopla.co.uk rightmove.co.uk PrimeLocation.com
The Property Ombudsman

TAYLORS Estate Agents

Sales & Lettings
Milton Keynes 01908 850959

Furzton £365,000
- Detached Property
- Four Bedrooms
- Three Reception Rooms
- Garden & Garage

Springfield £350,000
- Detached Property
- Four Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- En-Suite to Master

Broughton £345,000
- Detached Property
- Four Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Garden & Off Road Parking

Willen £325,000
- Four Bedroom Property
- Two Reception Rooms
- Garden & Garage
- Off Road Parking

Monkston £310,000
- Detached Property
- Four Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Sought After Location

Springfield £259,995
- Detached Property
- Four Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Off Road Parking

Bolbeck Park £250,000
- Link Detached Bedroom
- Two Bedrooms
- Converted Garage
- No Chain

The Hub £215,000
- Top Floor Apartment
- Two Bedrooms
- En-Suite
- Off Road Parking

Downs Barn £210,000
- Foru Bedrooms
- Kitchen/Diner
- Off Road Parking
- Close to Local Amenities

Eaglestone £190,000
- Detached Property
- Five Bedrooms
- Three Bathrooms
- Garden

Oldbrook £180,000
- Townhouse Property
- Four/Five Bedrooms
- Gardens
- Parking

Heelands £165,000
- Semi Detached Property
- Two Bedrooms
- Gardens
- Off Road Parking

Kingsmead £160,000
- Upper Floor Flat
- Two Bedrooms
- One Reception Room
- Allocated Off Road Parking

Oldbrook £135,000
- Apartment
- Two Bedrooms
- Garage
- Double Glazing & Gas Heating

TAYLORS
Estate Agents

Sales & Lettings
Stony Stratford 01908 850979

Pyke Hayes **£275,000**

- Detached Property
- Four Bedroom
- Three Reception Rooms
- Two Bathrooms
- Master En-Suite
- Enclosed Rear Garden
- Driveway
- Garage

Two Mile Ash **£165,000**

- Semi Detached Property
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Dining Room & Kitchen
- Garden
- Garage

Hepleswell **£65,000**

- Semi Detached Property
- Shared Ownership Scheme
- Three Bedrooms
- Kitchen/Dining Room
- Cloakroom

Bercham **£100,000**

- One Bedroom Maisonette
- No Upper Chain
- Off Road Parking
- Investment Opportunity
- Tenant Avaliable

ATTENTION

Taylors Stony Stratford have sold all of these house in Two Mile Ash in 2014! Believe it or not we have more buyers looking to purchase homes in Two Mile Ash! Please Call 01908 563825 for your free valuation!!

Kercroft **£110,000**

- End Terraced Property
- Lounge/Diner
- One Bedroom
- Communal Gardens

Kercroft **£100,000**

- Ground Floor Maisonette
- One Bedroom
- Lounge & Kitchen
- Garden Area

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Ask for further details!

*Terms and conditions apply.

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Sales & Lettings
Bletchley 01908 850949
Westcroft 01908 850984

Westcroft **£399,950**

- Detached Property
- Four Bedrooms
- Three Bathrooms
- Garden
- Double Garage

Grange Farm **£350,000**

- Detached Property
- Four Bedrooms
- Lounge & Conservatory
- Study & Dining Room
- Garden & Garage

Shenley Church End **£285,000**

- Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- One Reception Room
- Garden
- Garage

PUBLIC NOTICE

6 BINGHAM CLOSE EMERSON VALLEY MILTON KEYNES BUCKINGHAMSHIRE MK4 2AU. We are acting for the mortgagees and have received an offer of £165,000 on the above property. Any interested parties must submit any higher offers in writing to the selling agent before an exchange of contracts takes place.

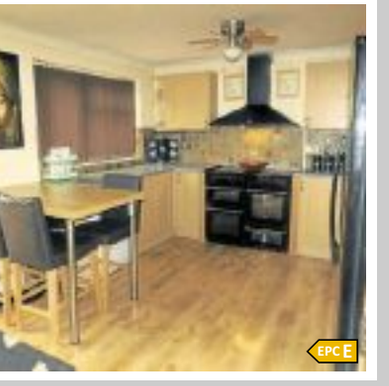
£165,000

Bletchley **£210,000**

- Semi Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Kitchen/Diner
- Attic
- Family Bathroom
- Utility Room
- Front & Rear Gardens
- Off Road Parking

Bletchley **£199,995**

- Extended Terraced Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Garden
- Garage



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Sales & Lettings
Wolverton 01908 850989
Newport Pagnell 01908 850979

Blakelands £335,000
- Detached Property
- Four Bedrooms
- Garage
- Off Road Parking

North Crawley £315,000
- Detached Property
- Two Bedrooms
- Conservatory
- Gardens

Sherington £245,000
- Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Lounge & Dining Room
- Rear Garden

Newport Pagnell £245,000
- Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Kitchen/Breakfast Room
- Garage, Gardens & Parking

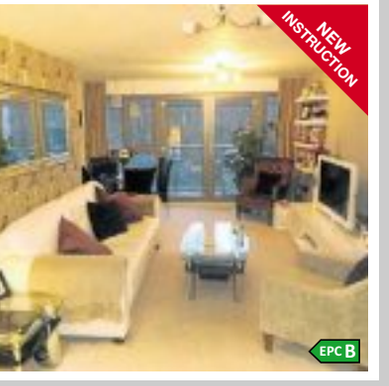
Leaside £225,000
- Terraced Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Garden
- Garage
- Resident Parking

Chicheley £219,950
- End Terraced Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Conservatory
- Garden

Bancroft Park £280,000
- Terraced Property
- Four Bedrooms
- Refurbished
- Sought After Location

Bradville £220,000
- Detached Bungalow
- Two Bedrooms
- Conservatory
- Garden, Garage & Driveway
- No Upper Chain

Lonsdale £205,000
- Third Floor Appartment
- Two Bedrooms
- Two En-Suites
- Balcony
- Allocated Parking



Greenleys £123,000
- Flat/Apartment
- Two Bedrooms
- Large Lounge/Diner
- Balcony
- No Onward Chain

NOW! challenge us...
to Sell your Property in 6 WEEKS!
or we'll give you £1,000 off our normal selling fees.*
Ask for further details!
*Terms and conditions apply.

TAYLORS
Estate Agents

Sales & Lettings
Kingston 01908 850954
Olney 01234 798324

Weston Underwood £565,000
- Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Off Road Parking
- Sought After Locaion

Olney £259,950
- Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Garage & Rear Garden

PUBLIC NOTICE

Property Address: 43 BRIDGE STREET, TURVEY, BEDFORD, BEDFORDSHIRE, MK43 8ER
We would advise that an offer has been made for the above property in the sum of £250,000. Any person wishing to increase on this offer should notify the selling agents of their best offer prior to exchange of contracts.

£250,000

Olney £250,000
- Terraced Property
- Three Double Bedrooms
- Large Rear Garden
- Off Road Parking
- Sought After Location

Olney £139,995
- End Terraced Property
- One Bedroom
- Garden
- Outbuildings

Broughton £165,000
- Flat/Apartment
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Open Plan Lounge/Diner
- Off Road Parking

Woburn Sands £360,000
- Detached Property
- Five Bedrooms
- One Reception Room
- Lounge & Dining Room
- Garage

Broughton £310,000
- Flat/Apartment
- Two Bedrooms
- One Reception Room
- En-Suite to Master
- Communal Gardens

Monkston £240,000
- Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Conservatory, Lounge & Cloakroom
- En-Suite to Master
- Gardens & Ample Parking

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Sales & Lettings
Newport Pagnell: 01908 611 388
Olney: 01234 711 481

Denton £385,000

Delighted to offer for sale this charming character townhouse situated in the much sought after Northamptonshire village of Denton

Olney £350,000

Immaculately presented four bedroom detached family home situated on Guinea Orchard in Olney. The property boasts a South facing plot.

Bozeat £289,000

Beautiful, spacious detached property located in the sought after village of Bozeat. The property has been very well maintained and recently refurbished by the present owners and must be viewed.

Bozeat £160,000

Three bedroom terraced property set within the ever popular village of Bozeat. Located along the A509 Bozeat is well positioned to reach Wellingborough, Milton Keynes and Northampton by road.

WANTED
More properties urgently required in Olney and surrounding villages. Call 01234 711481 to find out how we can get you moving!

Newport Pagnell £350,000

Four bedroom detached family home in the sought after road of Flora Thrompson Drive on the poets. The property benefits from a private location, remote double garage, en-suite and conservatory.

Haversham £325,000

A beautiful, unique stone built bungalow boasting fantastic views over open fields to the rear. The property is within catchment and just a short walk to Haversham Village school.

North Crawley £315,000

We are delighted to offer for sale this detached bungalow situated in the village of North Crawley, the propetry benefits from field views,a large wrap around garden & potential for development.

Newport Pagnell £215,000

We are proud to offer this well presented three bedroom semi detached chalet style home, situated in the extremely sought after Poets area of Newport Pagnell.

Newport Pagnell £149,995

Two bedroom maisonette, the property is situated in the heart of Newport Pagnell and boasts short walks to the historic town centre and the river ouze

Redhouse Park £145,000

Top floor apartment situated in the popular development of Redhouse Park. Entrance hall, open plan living area, kitchen, two bedrooms, family bathroom and off road parking.

ATTENTION
WANT TO SELL? CALL 01908 611388 AND QUOTE JG100 FOR YOUR EXCLUSIVE DISCOUNT!!

Wilson Peacock estate agents

Sales & Lettings
Milton Keynes: 01908 850994

Emerson Valley £350,000

SOLD within three days of coming to the market with buyers who missed out. If you have a property to sell in Emmerson Valley please call 01908 606951

Newton Longville £250,000

Extended three bedroom semi detached family home offering separate receptions, refurbished kitchen and bathroom and a large corner plot landscaped rear garden.

Oldbrook £210,000

Fully refurbished three bedroom, detached house with no upper chain located in the sought after location of The Boundary, Oldbrook.

Conniburrow £185,000

Four double bedroom mid terraced property in Conniburrow. Offering separate receptions and four double bedrooms, this property is ideal for all investors as well as a growing family.

Milton Keynes £125,000

Situated within walking distance of central Milton Keynes, Wilson Peacock are delighted to offer for sale this two bedroom apartment with no upper chain.

Milton Keynes £68,000

Welcomed to the market a fantastic two bedroom semi detached property on the shared ownership scheme. Located in the popular Shenley Lodge this property is a must see.

Oldbrook £33,000

One bedroom ground floor flat on the shared ownership scheme with Milton Kenynes council. The property briefly comprises kitchen/diner/lounge, bathroom and a carport.

CAN YOU HELP?

Kents Hill - SSTC within a week off coming on the market with qualified buyers missing out - if you can help please call on 01908 606951

TAYLORS
New Homes

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Scan using your Smartphone to view all our properties

5 BEDROOM, 3 EN SUITES £995,000

Detached property ocuupying a large corner plot.
Three reception rooms and a study on ground floor
Spacious Kitchen/diner with utility room
Master suite with dressing area and en suite
Two further en suite bedrooms
Double garage with parking for several cars

Call: 01908 677227

CINEMA, GYM AND 3 ENSUITES £975,000

5 Bed detached new home
4348 sq ft of accommodation
High specification throughout
Bespoke builder 'Bastain Homes'
Sought after 'Grange Farm' location
Double Garage wih parking

Call: 01908 677227

5 BED, VILLAGE LOCATION £650,000

High Specification 5 bed detached property
Kitchen with central island, integrated appliances and granite
Separate Living room and Dining Room
Ground Floor under floor heating and electric mood lighting
Two en suites to Master and Bedroom 2
Fully Landscaped Garden

Call: 01908 677227

4 BEDROOM IN VILLAGE LOCATION

High specification 4 bed Detached Property
Large kitchen diner with integrated appliances and granite
Ground Floor underfloor heating with electric mood lighting
Separate living room with doors to Fully landscaped garden
En suite to Master and bedroom 2
Short drive to CENTREMK and XSCAPE

Call: 01908 677227

NEW PHASE RELEASED £385,000

POPULAR HOUSE TYPE

5 Bedroom detached new home
Kitchen/breakfast room with double doors onto garden
5th bedroom ideal study
Sylish and breathtaking designs
First floor lounge with balcony to the rear
Integrated Garage and parking space
Green parkland, stunning lake and water feature
Situated near MK1 Shopping district
35 minutes into Central London by train
First phase sold quickly!
New development

SHOWHOME OPEN THURSDAY TO MONDAY

Call: 01908 677227

ROOF TOP CONSERVATORY £400,000

NEW PHASE RELEASED

5 Bedroom detached property
Large size kitchen/breakfast room with french doors
2 further separate reception rooms
En suite to master and bedroom 1
Detached Garage and driveway
Lake developement close to new MK1 shopping centre

Call: 01908 677227

BRAND NEW RELEASE £375,000

UNIQUE PROPERTY IN THIS PHASE

4 Bedroom detached property
Entrance hall with downstairs cloakroom
Kitchen/breakfast room with french doors to garden
Downstairs famiy/dining room with french doors to garden
First floor formal sitting room
En suites to bedrooms one and two
Home office/study on first floor
Detached garage with driveway for multiple vehicles

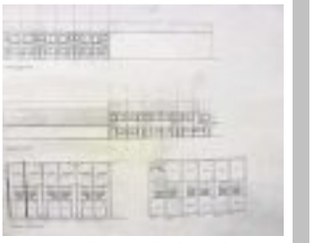
Call: 01908 677227

NEW RELEASE !! £310,000

Four bedroom family home 1436 sq ft
Ground floor kitchen breakfast room with doors to garden
Downstairs cloakroom and storage
First floor sitting room with balcony to front aspect
Extra room for either study or bedroom 5
Master bedroom with en suite and built in wardrobes
Built in wardrobes to bedroom 4
Close to MK1 shopping area
Good travel links to London by road or rail

HELP TO BUY AVAILABLE

Call: 01908 677227



BRAND NEW RELEASES £200,000

- THREE SOLD ALREADY!!
- Two bedroom houses ready June 2014
- 920 sq ft of accommodation
- Kitchen/diner with separate lounge
- Integrated washing machine and f/freezer
- Flooring of tiles to wet areas and carpet throughout

Call: 01908 677227

DOUBLE FRONTED 4 BED £340,000

Detached property on spacious corner plot
Dual aspect Lounge with separate Dining Room
Generous Kitchen/Breakfast/ Family Room with doors to Garden
En suite to Master Bedroom
Short Drive to CENTREMK and THEATRE DISTRICT
Good links south to London.

HELP TO BUY AVAILABLE

Call: 01908 677227

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propertywide.co.uk Zoopla.co.uk rightmove

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Sales & Lettings

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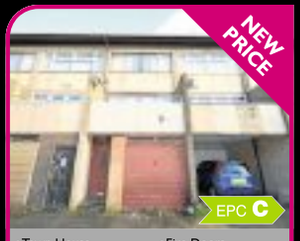
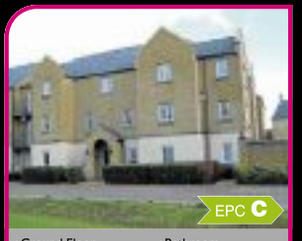
Email - info@inspiredagents.co.uk
Web - www.inspiredagents.co.uk

NEW
EPC C
Modern open plan living! This three double bedroom semi detached house is set in a cul-de-sac position.. Nearby are local schools, the Westcroft retail park, parkland and Howe Park Woods. Potential to extend subject to planning permission.
Westcroft £269,500

NEW
EPC C
A substantial size house that offers luxury and privacy. Located on a gated development of two houses, just off the Newton Road, is this contemporary five bedroom detached house with fittings to a high specification.
Bletchley £440,000

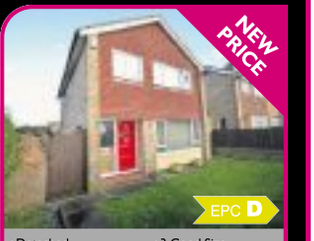
NEW
EPC AWAITED
A fabulous family home, located in a very popular area. This four bedroom detached house with garage is offered for sale in excellent order throughout. . Located nearby are local schools, retail park, parkland, ideal location for family living.
Westcroft OIEO £349,999


NEW PRICE
EPC C
•Town House •Fire Doors
•3 Bedrooms •Fire System
•Cloakroom •Garage
•Lounge •No Above Chain
Fishermead £155,000


EPC C
•Ground Floor •Bathroom
•2 Bedrooms •Intercom Entry
•Lounge/Kitchen •Parking
•Integrated Appliances •No Above Chain
Kingsmead £159,999

NEW
EPC AWAITED
•Terraced •Kitchen
•4 Bedrooms •Bathroom
•Cloakroom •Gardens
•Lounge/Diner •Spacious
Bradville £125,000

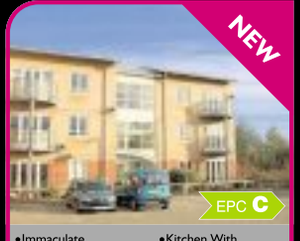
EPC C
•Ground Floor •En-Suite
•Apartment •Family Bahtroom
•Intercom Entry •Open Plan Accommodtion
•2 Bedrooms
New Bradwell OIEO £130,000

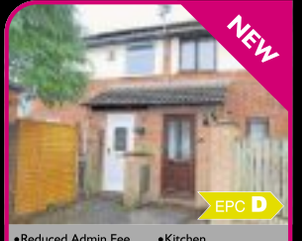

NEW PRICE
EPC D
•Detached •3 Good Size Bedrooms
•Lounge •Gardens
•Dining Room •Gardens
•Kitchen •Garage
'The Rivers' West Bletchley £229,995

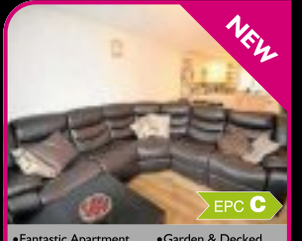
NEW PRICE
EPC D
A large five bedroom detached home in a sought after location.Comprises entrance hall, cloakroom, lounge, study, dining room, kitchen, utility room, master bedroom with en-suite, four further bedrooms, bathroom, gardens and double garage.
Westcroft £389,995

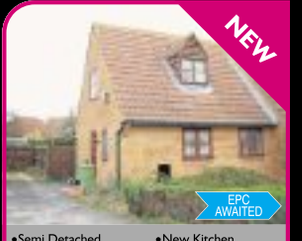
EPC C
A stunning detached home immaculately presented on a larger than average plot. Located on the west side of Milton Keynes the property has the added benefits of four double bedrooms, two with en suite, a detached double garage and large driveway.
Grange Farm £489,995

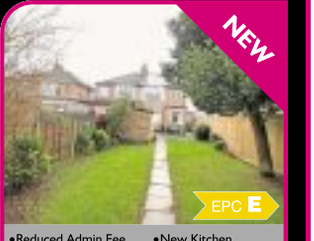
NEW PRICE
EPC E
Freefolk Cottage is a Grade II listed thatched cottage that offers charm and is situated upon approximately 0.72 acres. Approached by a sweeping driveway the cottage provides ample accommodation and is set within delightful wrap around gardens.
Bletchley Guide Price £499,995


NEW
EPC C
•Immaculate •Kitchen With Appliances
•Ground Floor •Bathroom
•1 Bedroom •FEES APPLY
•Open Plan Living
Medbourne pcm £650


NEW
EPC D
•Reduced Admin Fee •Kitchen
•Cluster House •Garden
•2 Bedrooms •Allocated Parking
•Lounge •FEES APPLY
Two Mile Ash pcm £725


NEW
EPC C
•Fantastic Apartment •Garden & Decked Area
•Ground Floor •Allocated Parking
•2 Double Bedrooms •FEES APPLY
•Open Plan Living
Springfield pcm £775


NEW
EPC AWAITED
•Semi Detached •New Kitchen
•Repainted Throughout •2 Bedrooms
•New Flooring •Unfurnished
•FEES APPLY
Crownhill pcm £795


NEW
EPC E
•Reduced Admin Fee •New Kitchen
•1930's Semi •Original Features
•3 Bedrooms •Off Road Parking
•Lounge/Diner •FEES APPLY
Wolverton pcm £850

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NEW

DEANSHANGER £289,950

- Detached executive home
- Downstairs cloakroom
- Separate formal lounge
- Refitted 'Kensworth' kitchen
- Open plan kitchen/diner
- Utility room
- En-suite to master bedroom
- Three further double bedrooms
- Family bathroom
- Top floor cloakroom
- Garage
- Cul-de-sac location

NEW

TATTENHOE £244,950

- Semi detached conservatory
- Three bedrooms
- En-suite
- Cloakroom
- Family bathroom
- Lounge
- Garage
- Kitchen/diner
- Driveway
- Open plan
- Front & rear gardens

NEW

OXLEY PARK £149,950

- Oxley Park
- One double bedroom
- Secure video intercom entry
- Reception hall
- Open plan lounge/diner
- Open plan fitted kitchen
- Feature bay window
- Electric heating

NEW

BANCROFT £169,950

- Staggered terrace
- Two bedrooms
- Conservatory
- Refitted kitchen
- Refitted bathroom
- Lounge
- Conservatory
- Garage
- Off road parking
- Gas central heating
- Ideal first time buy
- Call now to view

MUST BE VIEWED

GRANGE FARM £489,995

- Detached executive family home
- Five bedrooms
- Downstairs cloakroom
- Family room
- Separate study
- Open plan kitchen/diner
- Separate lounge
- En-suite to master & guest bedrooms
- Four further double bedrooms
- Double garage with gated access
- Cul-de-sac location
- Viewing highly recommended

NEW

BANCROFT £289,950

- Detached home
- Four bedrooms
- Refitted kitchen
- Refitted en-suite
- Lounge
- Dining room
- Conservatory
- Refitted bathroom
- Garage
- Off road parking
- Good size garden
- Viewing a must

NO CHAIN

SHENLEY LODGE £36,500

- First floor flat
- One bedroom
- 30% share
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- Shower room
- Allocated parking
- Gas central heating
- Communal gardens
- Cul de sac location
- No chain
- Viewing a must

NEW

KINGSMEAD £264,950

- Semi detached townhouse
- Four bedrooms
- Lounge
- Kitchen/diner
- Downstairs cloakroom
- Family bathroom
- Shower room
- Conservatory
- Garage
- Off road parking
- Hazeley School Catchment
- Walking distance to Westcroft Centre

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£150,000	£2,700	£999
£200,000	£3,600	£1,000
£250,000	£4,500	£1,250
£300,000	£5,400	£1,500
£350,000	£6,300	£1,750
£400,000	£7,200	£2,000
£450,000	£8,100	£2,250
£500,000	£9,000	£2,500

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Royal Doulton Labrador
Estimate £30-50

Brexton Picnic Set
Estimate £20-30

Pine Refectory Table & Chairs
Estimate £200

Ivory Fan
Estimate £200

Painting by Karin Corrigan
Estimate £30-50

Silver Salver
Estimate £600

Victorian Dining Table & Chairs
Estimate £1,200

Leather Reclining Settee Estimate £100

Moorcroft Orchid Vase
Estimate £500-600

Fur Coat
Estimate £50

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The computer generated illustration shows plots 52 & 53 in a mature setting and is for general guidance only. Prices correct at time of press. Interior photographs show a typical Martin Grant Homes show home. *Travel times from National Rail www.nationalrail.co.uk. All journey times are approximate.

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An impressive four bedroom property located in the heart of Woburn, benefiting from two reception rooms and en suite. Unfurnished. Avail Now.

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A stunning six bedroom character property on a plot of 1 1/2 acre garden, situated in a rural location. Unfurnished. Avail Now. Rent inc. gardener.

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A three bedroom property located at the end of a cul de sac location, benefiting from garage and off road parking. Unfurnished. Available Now.

WOBURN £813pcm

A unique, large one bedroom apartment situated over two floors, located in the heart of Woburn. Unfurnished. Available 10/02. 12 month let.

WOBURN SANDS £745pcm

A one bedroom ground floor garden flat. Single occupancy only. Rent includes gas, electric, water and council tax. Furnished. Available Now.

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A one bedroom mid terrace property with off road parking and brick outbuilding. Unfurnished. Available Now. 12 month min contract.

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ADVERTORIAL

Consumer confidence grows as the local housing market continues to strengthen

Increased activity in the local housing market assisted by the Government backed Help to Buy scheme and a greater availability of higher loan-to-value mortgages has led to a growth in consumer confidence, according to local leading estate and lettings agency Taylors in Milton Keynes.

These findings are confirmed in the results of the third exclusive survey Countrywide plc, the UK's largest property services group, conducted with YouGov. Taylors is part of Countrywide plc, who conducted the study to investigate important factors affecting the current housing market in Great Britain.

The YouGov research surveyed over 2,000 Great British adults and its findings identified improved consumer confidence in the housing market when compared to the results of Countrywide plc's last survey in November 2012.

The research showed that 51% of homeowners in Great Britain think the value of their current home will increase in 12 months time, an increase of 17% compared to the November 2012 survey results.

The expectation of rising prices has grown most quickly in the East of England with only 29% of respondents who thought the price of their property would increase in 2013 compared to 61% of respondents who indicated that they think the price of their property will increase in 2014.

The results of the survey also revealed that in Great Britain over half (56%) of 18-24 year olds believe they are likely to use the Help to Buy scheme compared to around a quarter of those aged between 25-54 years.

Location is the most important factor when buying a property. 36% of people who stated they plan to buy a property within the next 3 years would be least likely to compromise on location. This rises to 47% among 35-44 year olds compared with just 26% of 18-24 year olds.

Just under 1 in 5 (18%) of GB adults are currently prevented from buying a property or moving home because they are unable to afford a deposit, this is a decrease of 5% when compared to the November 2012 survey results.

Around a third of private renters think they are likely to use the Help to Buy scheme to purchase a property in the next three years, around double the 16% of homeowners who are considering it.

George Burden Regional Manager for Taylors Estate Agents in Milton Keynes, commented:
"The results of the YouGov survey confirm what we see on a daily basis. The housing market is moving forward at a steady pace and consumers are more enthused with the current housing market conditions. The local housing market in Milton Keynes is buoyant and properties that are well presented and correctly priced are selling well. However, demand from buyers for property in the local area is outstripping the supply of property coming on the market and due to this we now need more properties to sell."

"We expect to see more first time buyers and homeowners enter the housing market this year, as the property market and wider economic conditions show further signs of improvement and these results would back up that view."

For further information about the local housing market and the YouGov survey results, please contact Taylors in Central Milton Keynes by telephone on 01908 678151 or email manager.centralmiltonkeynes@taylorsestateagents.co.uk.

Countrywide integrated solutions local expertise

TAYLORS Estate Agents

About Countrywide plc
Taylors Estate Agents is part of Countrywide plc, the UK's largest integrated property services Group, including the largest estate agency and lettings network, operates more than 1,300 associated branches across the UK.

Countrywide plc's network of expertise helps more people move than any other business in the UK and is a leading provider of estate agency, lettings, mortgage services, land and new homes, auctions, surveying, conveyancing, corporate property management services and Commercial property.

Countrywide plc's award-winning service has earned the business 142 high-profile industry awards in the last five years, with customers voting Countrywide Best Large Chain – National category, at the 2013 ESTA awards.
Other awards include our Land & New Homes team was named the UK's Best New Homes Agent at the Estate Agency of the Year Awards 2012 and Countrywide Surveying Services and Countrywide Conveyancing Services won the award for Best Anti-Fraud Measure at the Mortgage Finance Gazette Awards 2012.

About the Countrywide/YouGov survey:
All figures, unless otherwise stated, are from YouGov Plc. Total sample size was 2,065 GB adults aged 18+. Fieldwork was undertaken between 20th –23rd December 2013. The survey was carried out online. The figures have been weighted and are representative of all GB adults (aged 18+).
November study: Total sample size was 2152 adults.
Fieldwork was undertaken between 7th - 9th November 2012.

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Proposed Salary: £32,072 – £35,784

Taking ownership of our Sourcing and Value for Money team, you will bring our Purchase to Pay strategy to life and impact enormously on our bottom line. To this end, you will analyse purchasing data from SAP to facilitate the consolidation of suppliers, achieve reductions in contract spend and identify areas for cost savings. Preferably CIPS-qualified, you will bring significant experience of managing e-procurement systems, advanced Excel and reporting skills, and detailed knowledge of public service, local government and partnership working. Above all, you should be extremely commercially astute and capable of making your mark on everything we do.

For informal enquiries please contact Ruth Grehan on 01908 254688.

Specialist Advisory Teacher

TPS MS/UPS + 1-2SEN **Ref: 50012594**

Strengthening our Cognition and Learning Specialist Teaching Team, you will support schools across the city to meet the needs of pupils with learning difficulties and disabilities. This will require a specialist teaching qualification and experience in SEND, giving you proven ability to plan and deliver interventions and raise pupil achievement. Equally importantly, you should be able to offer advice, training and support to colleagues, parents and the Children & Families Team – forging multi- disciplinary approaches.

This role is subject to safer recruitment practices.

For informal enquiries please contact Sue Morgan on 01908657836.

Care Assistant

£13,725 - £16,215 pro rata **Ref: 50011095**

Proposed Salary: £17,980-£19,317 pro rata
18 hours per week
Permanent and 2 year fixed term contracts available

Flowers House is a new purpose-built supported living scheme, delivering 24-hour onsite care to residents with dementia and complex needs. Your support will transform their quality of life, as you ensure their physical and emotional wellbeing and engage them in a range of activities. To join us, you will require deep commitment to a career in care, plus a flexible approach to hours (including both early and late shifts and alternate weekends). If you have an NVQ 2 or 3 in Care, so much the better, but will we give you comprehensive support to gain further qualifications.

Interview Date: 19th March 2014.

This role is subject to safer recruitment practices.

For informal enquiries please contact Janie Beaton on 01908 253555.

Cooks

£13,725 - £16,215 pro rata **Ref: 50011244**

Proposed Salary: £17,980-£19,317 pro rata
14 ½ and 20 hour positions available

Based at Kilkenny House, you will join a team preparing and cooking nutritionally balanced meals that meet the dietary needs of frail older people. The meals service provides a two-course lunchtime meal to three sites, and works to the highest standards, so you will require an up-to-date Food Hygiene Certificate as well as an NV2 Level 2 in Food Preparation or sound experience in a busy commercial kitchen. At the same time, you should be able to supervise colleagues, develop new menus and purchase provisions, so we're looking for capable and confident professionals.

This role is subject to safer recruitment practices.

Milton Keynes Council is working jointly with the Trade Unions on the introduction of a new Job Evaluation scheme for all single status posts. Therefore the following adverts contain the current salary of the post plus the proposed salary following the outcome of the Job Evaluation exercise. It is anticipated that the new pay arrangements will commence from the 01 April 2014.

Closing Date for all applications is 9th March 2014

To apply online visit: www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/jobs-careers For an application form, email: jobs@milton-keynes.gov.uk if you have a hearing impairment and have access please phone 01908 252727 (office hours only). Please quote appropriate reference. Salaries will normally start at the first point of the grade.

It's ability, not disability that counts

We are now urgently seeking skilled candidates for the available positions as stated below and welcome suitable applicants. All positions are under PAYE with the benefits of paid holiday, etc and wages are processed weekly.

HEATING ASSESSORS
Heating Division

Required for our rapidly expanding heating department.

Role will involve carrying out full system surveys and quoting for gas boiler replacements and heating systems on domestic properties. Experience essential. Knowledge of finance products would be an advantage but full training will be provided.

Pay calculated on daily basic rate with additional commission for sold measures. Overall, **expected earnings range from £28,000 to £50,000 per annum**. All appointments are pre booked by our administration teams and a daily diary will be provided electronically. Immediate start available.

Company vehicle, fuel card and uniform provided. Full driving licence required.

HEATING ENGINEERS
Heating Division

Experienced and qualified engineers are urgently required for our expanding heating and boiler division.

Qualifications must include each of the following: CCN1, CPA1, HTR1, CENWAT, CKR1 and Gas Safe Registration. All work is provided on a daily diary via email.

Expected earnings range from £28,000 to £50,000 per annum. (productivity dependant).

Company vehicle, fuel card and uniform provided.
Full driving licence required.

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or 1 Appley Court, Appley Wood Corner, Haynes, Beds, MK45 3QQ.
Please also specify which position you are applying for.

Teacher of English (Maternity Cover)
May 2014

Bedford Modern School.

Bedford Modern is a friendly, happy and supportive HMC co-educational independent day school, educating 1200 students from age 7 to 18.

We are seeking to appoint a passionate and dynamic English graduate to cover maternity leave beginning May 2014, although there may be some flexibility with regard to the start date and there is the possibility of this becoming a permanent position. You will be required to teach English Language and Literature at KS3, KS4 and KS5. NQTs and experienced teachers are invited to apply.

The School has an exceptionally strong and well-resourced English Faculty. In 2013 the Faculty achieved 76% A*- A at IGCSE and 66% A* at A Level Literature.

Salaries are based on The Harpur Trust Teaching Scale which is above the national average. All posts are subject to enhanced DBS clearance.

Further information, including a detailed job description and application pack is available from our website at www.bedmod.co.uk.

Closing date: Mid-day 24 February 2014
Interview date: 03 March 2014

Bedford Modern School is part of The Harpur Trust.

bedmod.co.uk

Autism Bedfordshire

DEVELOPMENT OFFICER
CHILD SERVICES (37.5 hours / week)

Responsibilities: management of summer schemes; family activity groups; youth clubs and staff teams; helpline calls; arranging and delivering training.

Essential Skills & Experience: planning and management; IT and project management; leadership, management and training; car owner/ driver Desirable: experience/ knowledge of autism; knowledge and experience of EYFS and Ofsted.

Hours include regular Saturdays and evenings. The post is based in Bedford and involves delivering services **countywide.**

Salary: £18,375 - £25,796 plus stakeholder pension.

01234 350704 / enquiries@autismbeds.org

Closing date: 12 noon 20th February 2014.
Interviews: 25th & 26th February 2014

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VACANCY
QC Assistants

Massmould is a highly successful business manufacturing plastic caps and closures for the packaging industry. We employ over 180 people on a multiple shift operation.

We have 2 QC Assistant vacancies available; 1 at our Flitwick site and 1 at our site in Milton Keynes.

Working in a busy manufacturing environment duties will include:

- Completion of quality inspection / measurement
- Ensuring cap quality documentation is up-to-date
- Maintaining / auditing production traceability documentation
- Reporting quality issues when component doesn't meet required specification(s)
- Assist in completing GMP and other site audits.

Good PC skills required.

Applications to **gillian.mcculloch@gcs.com**

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Bedfordshire Fire and Rescue Service

PART TIME FIRE SAFETY TECHNICIAL OFFICER

BASED AT BARKERS LANE BEDFORD

£31,160 pro rata per annum
22.5 hours per week (with the possibility of becoming full time)

Based at our Northern Area Office at Barkers Lane, Bedford you will work for three days per week (each Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday) providing technical advice and guidance on Fire Safety policy and procedures. You will also be required to provide and implement training and practical support to the delivery of the Fire and Rescue Service's legislative fire safety.

You must have a comprehensive technical knowledge of current legislative fire safety standards, and enforcement and administration procedures, including the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005. Good communication skills are essential (both written and verbal) as are good organisational skills.

PART TIME ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT, TECHNICIAL

BASED AT SERVICE HQ, KEMPSTON

£18,638 pro rata per annum
20 hours per week
(0800 to 1200 Monday to Friday)

Required to provide administrative and clerical support to the Technical Section, maintaining all servicing schedules and records relating to operational equipment and plant. You will be required to assist the Technical Manager in research and development projects, maintaining records of equipment evaluation.

You will need to be literate, numerate, have good communication skills and be able to follow laid down procedures. You must have excellent organisational skills and the ability to work on your own initiative.

A current full driving licence with no pending issues is an essential requirement for both roles. There is also a requirement for Corporate Clothing to be worn.

An application form, job description and personnel specification, together with other relevant details may be obtained from www.bedsfire.com where the advertisement will be published under 'Careers and Recruitment'. Alternatively, if you are unable to access a computer, please contact the Human Resources Section on 01234 845025.

Completed application forms must be returned no later than Friday 7th March 2014.

Bedfordshire Fire & Rescue Service is an equal opportunities employer and welcomes applications from people from ethnic minorities and disabled people who are currently under-represented in this area of work within the Service.

POSITIVE ABOUT DISABLED PEOPLE

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The Village Medical Centre

Kingswood Way, Great Denham, Bedfordshire MK40 4GH

Practice Nurse Part Time
Thursdays and Fridays

Salary Range depending upon experience
Flexibility on hours may be considered

Experienced practice nurse required for permanent part time post in our GP training practice.

This position offers the opportunity to be involved with all aspects of nursing in General Practice. Diabetes skills would be an advantage.
We are looking for a proactive individual who will work well as part of the Nursing Team.

For an informal chat please contact Carol Deytrikh, Nurse Practitioner on 01234 244000.

For an application pack please either access our website www.gtdenham.org to download or email enquiries@gtdenham.org or Telephone 01234 244000:

Closing Date: Monday 3rd March 2014
Interview Date: 18th March 2013 from 2pm

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Animal Care Assistants

As one of the largest private veterinary referral practices in Europe with 43 clinicians and 51 nurses we are developing our facilities and care to even higher standards.

Located between Bedford and Luton near Barton-le-Clay we currently have vacancies for Animal Care Assistants.

A comprehensive package is offered which includes pension and private health insurances.

Applicants should send their CV to Mike Thomas at Davies Veterinary Specialists, Manor Farm Business Park, Higham Gobion, Herts SG5 3HR or e-mail it to mat@vetspecialists.co.uk

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Key Stage 2 Teacher

September 2014

Bedford Modern School

Bedford Modern is a HMC co-educational independent day school, educating 1200 students from age 7 to 18. We wish to appoint an excellent Key Stage 2 Teacher to join our busy and thriving Junior School team.

You will be an inspirational classroom practitioner with the ability to motivate and enthuse children. You will be able to challenge children through innovative activities and be passionate about their learning. You should be eager to develop yourself professionally and be willing to make a positive impact on the School.

We are a friendly, enthusiastic and hardworking staff, working as part of a supportive and cohesive team in a school where the children are happy and keen to learn.

Salaries are based on The Harpur Trust Teaching Scale which is above the national average. All posts are subject to enhanced DBS clearance.

Further information, including a detailed job description and application pack is available from our website at www.bedmod.co.uk.

Closing date: Mid-day 21 February 2014
Interview date: 11 March 2014

Bedford Modern School is part of The Harpur Trust.

bedmod.co.uk

Bedford Borough Council

Summer Work

The Sports Development Unit have a range of different paid positions available on our Play and Games Schemes during the school summer holiday period. Applicants must be able to commit for the full 20 days from 29th July – 23rd August 2014. Staff will work approximately 5 hours a day unless otherwise stated.

Applicants must be 18 years or over.

Play scheme Area Leader
£9.09 p/h • Temporary/30 hrs per week

Play scheme Senior Play Leader
£7.82 p/h • Temporary/25 hrs per week

Play scheme Play Leader
£6.90 p/h • Temporary/25 hrs per week

Play scheme Administration Support
£6.90 p/h • Temporary/25 hrs per week

Play scheme Admin Bus Driver
£7.82 p/h • Temporary/25 hrs per week

Play scheme Mini Bus Driver (MIDAS)
£7.82 p/h • Temporary/25 hrs per week

Closing date for all vacancies: 14 March 2014
Short listing: 24 March 2014
Interview date: 7 – 18 April 2014

For more information on these posts and to apply please visit www.bedford.gov.uk

Posts working with children and/or vulnerable adults will be subject to the disclosure of criminal records.

The Council is an Equal Opportunities Employer.

INVESTORS IN PEOPLE

Ousedale School

Aspire | Believe | Achieve

Ousedale School offers employees
a friendly and supportive environment
where teaching and associate staff work together
to offer the highest standard of education and pastoral care. We are looking for reliable, flexible and conscientious colleagues to join our friendly site support team for the following posts:

Assistant Finance Manager

Salary: £21,067 (MK6) • Full time: 52 weeks
Hours: 37 hours a week, 8.30 am – 4.30 pm (4.00 pm on a Friday) with 30 minutes for lunch • Location: Newport Pagnell

We are looking for an organised, self-motivated 'can-do' person to help lead the busy school Finance Office. On a day-to-day basis you will assist with the financial management and budgetary control of the school and contribute to the daily work of the Finance Office. Experience of financial accounting systems and excellent IT skills are essential. Experience in an educational environment would be an advantage, but is not essential. The successful candidate will need to be task orientated, able to meet deadlines with a keen eye for detail and calm under pressure.

This role offers you the opportunity to become part of a successful dedicated team in a top performing school.

Learning Support/ Administrative Assistant

Actual Salary: £9,361 (MK4) • Hours: 26¼ hours a week, 8.45 am – 2.00 pm (some flexibility possible) – term time only • Location: Newport Pagnell

We require, as soon as possible, a colleague to support the MFL department. Responsibilities include: providing administrative and clerical support to the MFL department; supporting groups of students with coursework; supervising MFL classes in the absence of their timetabled teacher (occasionally when required) and updating display boards.

If either of these posts interests you and you possess the necessary skills, you can find details and an application form on our website www.ousedale.org.uk. Application forms only will be accepted – please do not send in CVs.

Closing date: Thursday, 27th February 2014.

The school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff to share this commitment. An enhanced DBS will be required.

The Grove, Newport Pagnell, Bucks MK16 0BJ | Tel: 01908 210203
Fax: 01908 216574 | E-mail: recruitment@ousedale.org.uk
Headteacher: Mrs S Carbert

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BEDFORD SCHOOL

HMC BOARDING AND DAY
715 Boys; 300 Sixth Form

TEACHER OF MATHEMATICS

We are looking to appoint a talented and well qualified Mathematician for September 2014 to join our highly successful Mathematics Department. This exciting post represents an excellent opportunity to teach motivated boys in well-resourced classrooms. The Department enjoys considerable popularity amongst the boys (over 200 students studying A level or International Baccalaureate Mathematics in the Sixth Form, including 20 taking Further Mathematics in each year). The Mathematics Department is a strong department with nine full-time staff and four part-time staff and consistently excellent results are achieved. The ability to teach throughout the school, including A Level, is essential and the successful applicant would have the opportunity to teach A Level Further Mathematics and Higher Level IB in order to continue their professional development. The post might suit either an experienced teacher seeking to broaden his/her experience or a relatively new entrant to the profession.

A willingness to take an active part in the wider life of a busy boarding and day School is essential and the ability to coach games, especially one of the School's major sports, would be an advantage.

The School is fully accredited to participate in the ISC NQT Induction Programme in order to provide qualified teacher status.

The School has its own salary scale which is well above the national scale. Accommodation may be available and there is generous fee remission for children of teaching staff of the Harpur Trust Schools in Bedford.

Further details are available from **Sarah Lapidge, Bedford School, De Parys Avenue, Bedford MK40 2TU tel: 01234 362214 fax: 01234 362283 email: slapidge@bedfordschool.org.uk.**

A copy of the job description and an application form is available to download from the School's website. Applications should be returned to the Head Master no later than midday on Monday 3rd March 2014. Please note that CVs will not be considered.

www.bedfordschool.org.uk

The Harpur Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

The successful applicant will be subject to an Enhanced DBS check, references and other checks.

Bedford School is part of the Harpur Trust

Closing Date
Monday 3 March 2014 (12noon)
Interview Date
Friday 7th March 2014

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St Mary's Catholic Primary School Caddington, Dunstable, Bedfordshire, LU1 4BB

Central Bedfordshire

DEPUTY HEADTEACHER

£41,757 - £47,277 p.a. Vacancy ID: 100845

The Governors of this friendly and welcoming school are looking for:

- A practising Catholic committed to developing our faith community
- Strong leadership skills and the ability to inspire, challenge and support children and colleagues
- An excellent classroom practitioner
- Someone whose interpersonal skills enable them to communicate effectively with all members of the school community

We can offer you:

- A strong Catholic ethos
- Motivated, well behaved and enthusiastic children and a hard-working and dedicated staff team
- Committed and supportive Governors
- The opportunity to play a pivotal role in the school's future development

Visits to the school will be warmly welcomed. Please contact the school office to make an appointment.

For further details and an application form please contact Mrs Mary Davis at the school address, telephone 01582 602420 or email stmaryscadd@cbc.beds.sch.uk

Closing date: 28 February 2014
Interview date: 7 March 2014

Posts working with either children and/or vulnerable adults will be subject to the disclosure of criminal records.

Central Bedfordshire Council is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults and expects all employees, volunteers and contractors to share this commitment.

We are committed to equal opportunities.

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BEDFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL

Hastingsbury Business and Enterprise College
Hill Rise, Kempston, Bedford MK42 7EB

Director of Learning: Science

Full-time
TLR1E £10,261 pa

We are looking to appoint an inspirational Director of Learning for Science, leading a dynamic and innovative Faculty. You will be an outstanding Teacher of Science with an energy and passion for planning and delivering high quality lessons. If you have the drive and commitment to change young peoples` live by working in a dynamic environment, then we would welcome your application.

For further details and an application pack please contact Joanne Carr on tel: 01234290900 or email: jcarr@hastingsbury.beds.sch.uk

Closing date: 28 February 2014.

Bedford Borough schools are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

The Council is an Equal Opportunities Employer.

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Edwinstree Middle School

Buntingford, Hertfordshire
450 pupils aged 9 - 13

Edwinstree is an oversubscribed Church of England Middle School deemed Outstanding in 2008 and again in Summer 2012.

A vacancy has arisen for a full time permanent

Leader of ICT

for Summer Term 2014

TLR (2a) £2,535

Edwinstree is a successful, friendly over subscribed Middle School

If you have the skills and enthusiasm to join this thriving school, you will be:

- Working in an outstanding school
- Assisted through your first year by a thorough induction programme provided by supportive colleagues
- Teaching a wonderful age group of motivated pupils who are capable of independence
- Able to teach with the aid of outstanding ICT Resources
- Working in partnership with parents
- In an excellent teaching environment situated in rural Hertfordshire, less than an hour from central London
- Paid a London fringe allowance

Hertfordshire is committed to the protection and safety of children and young people. An enhanced CRB check will be expected from the successful candidate

If you would like to find out more, please contact the school by telephone: (01763) 271446 or By email at: admin@edwinstree.herts.sch.uk.

Closing Date: 7th March

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sdc

MANAGEMENT TRAINEES
GRADUATES
YEAR-OUT UNDERGRADUATES

SDC is a privately owned regional construction company based in Bedford. Our annual turnover is in the region of £100m. The projects we undertake range in value from £5k to £80m.

Our construction expertise and experience is wide-ranging, our work embracing all forms of construction activity, procurement methods and client organisations in both the public and private sector.

Based upon our success, and through proactive and innovative thinking and actions, we are pleased to be able to offer a number of Trainee, Graduate and Year-Out positions in all disciplines, Site Management, Estimating, Planning, Design and Quantity Surveying.

Successful candidates will join and work alongside our experienced management teams, which will develop them through the company to carry out their roles to a high standard using a broad base of experience and are likely to progress on to fill senior management positions within our organisation.

We are keen to source confident individuals with a strong desire to work within the construction industry. Opportunities to attend part-time construction related courses are available to the right candidates.

Candidates should be qualified to A Level standard. Applicants who are already undertaking or are considering enrolling on to a construction related qualification will also be considered. Trainees will be offered day release to attend college/university.

Year-out undergraduates do not have to be on a construction related course but would need to be studying a subject that could be applied in an organisation such as ours.

If you are interested in applying for this outstanding opportunity you should submit your application, accompanied by a CV, to Christine Shiner, HR & Training Co-ordinator, SDC Builders Ltd, Limegrove House, Caxton Road, Bedford MK41 0QQ. **hr@sdc.co.uk**

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TWO FULL TIME TEACHERS OF SCIENCE
FULL TIME SCIENCE TEACHER TRAINING POST

Commencing September 2014, or earlier if possible

An exciting opportunity to contribute to a rapidly improving school.

We need two good or outstanding science teachers to join our Science Department at this friendly multicultural, 13–19 school. Within our new Super-rollover curriculum you will have the opportunity to teach your specialism at both KS4 and A-level.

Our ideal candidate could be an enthusiastic NQT who shows potential or a more experienced practitioner who can help us in our drive for improvement. We need at least one of the candidates to specialise in Chemistry.

In addition, we are offering a training place to a candidate with a suitable science degree and an interest in becoming a qualified teacher.

Job description and application forms are available to download from the school's website www.biddenham.beds.sch.uk. Please send applications for the attention of Julie Shepherd or by email to hr@biddenham.beds.sch.uk.

Closing date: Thursday 27th February 2014 at 9.00am
Interviews: Wednesday 5th March 2014

Biddenham School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. The successful applicant will be subject to an Enhanced DBS (formerly CRB) check, references and other checks.

Biddenham
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL & SPORTS COLLEGE

Biddenham Turn, Bedford MK40 4AZ.
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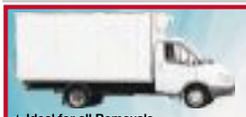

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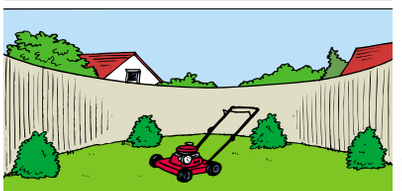

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THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF MILTON KEYNES

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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council of the Borough of Milton Keynes has, on the 19th February 2014, made an Order under Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984. Its effect will be to temporarily prohibit all access along parts of the following five sections of rear access roads in Wolverton:

1. that section of the rear access road running parallel to and to the rear of Cambridge Street and Windsor Street, Wolverton from its junction with Western Road to its junction with Cambridge Street (southern end). It is anticipated the temporary closure will be from Wednesday 26th February 2014 to Friday 28th February 2014, inclusive.
   The alternative route for all traffic will be to proceed via Western Road, Windsor Street and Cambridge Street and vice versa.
2. that section of the rear access road running parallel to and to the rear of Green Lane and Victoria Street, Wolverton from its junction with Stacey Avenue to its junction with the alleyway that links number 3 Green Lane and number 2 Victoria Street. It is anticipated the temporary closure will be from Monday 3rd March to Wednesday 5th March 2014, inclusive.
   The alternative route for all traffic will be to proceed via Stacey Avenue, Green Lane and the alleyway that links Green Lane and Victoria Street and vice versa.
3. that section of the rear access road running parallel to and to the rear of Church Street and Stratford Road, Wolverton, from its junction with Anson Road to its junction with Jersey Road. It is anticipated the temporary closure will be from Monday 10th March to Wednesday 12th March 2014, inclusive.
   The alternative route for all traffic will be to proceed via Anson Road, Church Street and Jersey Road and vice versa.
4. that section of the rear access road running parallel to and to the rear of Western Road, Wolverton, from a point in line with the southern common boundary wall of numbers 49 and 51 Western Road to a point in line with the southern common boundary wall of numbers 69 and 71 Western Road. It is anticipated the temporary closure will be from Monday 17th March to Wednesday 19th March 2014, inclusive.
   The alternative route for all traffic will be to proceed via Woburn Avenue, Western Road and the alleyway that links Western Road and Furze Way and vice versa.
5. that section of the rear access road running parallel to and to the rear of Church Street and Stratford Road, Wolverton, from a point in line with the rear boundary line of numbers 11 and 12 Stratford Road to a point in line with the rear boundary line of numbers 5 and 6 Stratford Road. It is anticipated the temporary closure will be from Monday 7th April to Wednesday 9th April 2014, inclusive.
   The alternative route for all traffic will be to proceed via Church Street and Radcliffe Street and vice versa.

The Council is satisfied that these temporary closures are necessary to enable works to be carried out, namely, essential works to repair leaking comm pipes and a leaking atplas, a burst water main and a leaking stop-tap. It is anticipated the temporary closures will commence from 26th February 2014 until 9th April 2014. Each rear access road will only be closed for approximately 3 days as stated above and only when indicated by the appropriate traffic signs, which will be erected in advance of any road closure.

There will be no exemptions from the provisions of this Order, except for emergency service vehicles and military vehicles on operational duties.

The Order will come into operation on the 26th February 2014 and will continue in force for a maximum period of 18 months or until the said works have been completed, which ever is the sooner. If the works are not completed within the maximum period stated, a further Order may be made with the consent of the Secretary of State.

Any person committing a breach of the Order will be liable upon prosecution to such fine as is prescribed by the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.

Civic Offices — 19th February 2014
1 Saxon Gate East
Milton Keynes
Ifty Ali
Principal Solicitor – Law and Governance

THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF MILTON KEYNES

(VARIOUS ROADS, NEW BRADWELL) (PROHIBITION OF HEAVY COMMERCIAL VEHICLES) ORDER 2014

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council of the Borough of Milton Keynes proposes to make an Order under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 which would have the effect of prohibiting any heavy commercial vehicle from proceeding along all roads bounded by and within the New Bradwell Area (except for access), specifically defined as follows:-

That area bounded by the north-eastern kerb line of the V6 Grafton Street between the junction of Newport Road and a point in line with the north-western side of the Grand Union Canal; the north-western side of the Grand Union Canal between a point in line with the north-eastern kerb line of the V6 Grafton Street and a point in line with the southern kerb line of Newport Road; Newport Road south side between a point in line with the north-western side of the Grand Union Canal to a point approximately 67 metres east of the junction with Guest Gardens and Newport Road north side between a point approximately 67 metres east of the junction with Guest Gardens to its junction with the V6 Grafton Street.

A copy of the proposed order, the Council's Statement of Reasons for proposing the order and a map showing the roads, area and boundary referred to, may be inspected during opening hours at Milton Keynes Library, 555 Silbury Boulevard, Milton Keynes MK9 3EJ, Wolverton Library, Town Hall, Creed Street, Wolverton, Milton Keynes MK12 5LY, and during normal office hours at Milton Keynes Council, Civic Offices, 1 Saxon Gate East, Milton Keynes, MK9 3EJ.

Any objections to the proposals, together with the grounds on which they are made, must be **made in writing** and sent to the undersigned **to be received** no later than 12 March 2014 quoting reference BAS-P&E-8857-2325.

Civic Offices — 19 February 2014
1 Saxon Gate East
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THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF MILTON KEYNES

(BRECKLAND, LINFORD WOOD) (TEMPORARY CLOSURE) ORDER 2014

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council of the Borough of Milton Keynes for the purpose of facilitating the holding of a relevant event, which is being promoted by Dr Mick Bromilow, Chair of the Milton Keynes Athletics Club, namely the South of England Road Relay Championships, intends to make an Order under Section 16A of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, the effect of which will be to temporarily prohibit vehicular access along the entire length of Breckland, Linford Wood.

It is anticipated the closure will take effect on Sunday 16 March 2014 between the hours of 11.45 am and 5.15 pm.

Whilst this closure is in effect there will be no alternative route for traffic, however, access will be maintained to affected business premises for the duration of the temporary restrictions.

There shall be no exemptions from the provisions of the order apart from emergency service vehicles, military vehicles on operational duties and any vehicles being used in connection with the event.

The proposed order will come into operation on 16 March 2014 and will continue in force for a maximum period of 3 days, however it is envisaged that the event will be completed within one day.

A copy of the proposed Order, a statement of reasons for proposing the Order and a map showing the areas referred to, may be inspected during opening hours at Milton Keynes Library, 555 Silbury Boulevard, Milton Keynes and during normal office hours at Milton Keynes Council, Civic Offices, 1 Saxon Gate East, Central Milton Keynes, quoting reference number BAS-P&E-8833-2323.

Any person committing a breach of the Order will be liable upon prosecution to such fine as is prescribed by the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.

Civic Offices — 19 February 2014
1 Saxon Gate East
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THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF MILTON KEYNES

(HIGHWAY AT BLETCHLEY BUS STATION, PART OF SOUTH TERRACE, AND PARTS OF CARRIAGEWAY, FOOTWAY, REDWAY AND A PEDESTRIAN CROSSING ALONG SAXON STREET, BLETCHLEY) (TEMPORARY CLOSURE) ORDER 2014

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council of the Borough of Milton Keynes intends, in not less than seven days from the date of this Notice to make an order under Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 the effect of which would be to temporarily prohibit all access to and along that whole area of highway comprising Bletchley Bus Station and vehicular access to and along parts of South Terrace and Saxon Street, Bletchley, together with the temporary prohibition of pedestrian access to and along parts of the adjacent footway and redway and across a pedestrian crossing, whilst works are carried out in connection with the re-development of Bletchley Bus Station at Saxon Street, Bletchley.

The effect of the proposed order will be to impose the following temporary closures:-

ROAD CLOSURES – lengths of road to be closed:-

1. Highway at Bletchley Bus Station.
   Whilst the bus station is closed, there will be temporary bus stops situated along Saxon Street and South Terrace (see below for more information);
2. South Terrace, Bletchley (except for buses) – from its junction with Saxon Street to the northern entrance into the Retail Unit car park (situated between Saxon Street and Albert Street).
   Whilst the above length of road is closed the alternative route will be via Saxon Street (southbound), Saxon Street (northbound), Princes Way, Albert Street and South Terrace.

FOOTWAY CLOSURE – length of footway to be closed:-

That length running alongside Saxon Street, Bletchley (west side) from the zebra crossing situated on Buckingham Road (west of its junction with Saxon Street) to the pedestrian crossing situated on Saxon Street opposite the bus station.

Whilst the affected length of footway is closed the alternative route will be via Buckingham Road (south side), Locke Road (east side), the alleyway which links Locke Road and Stanier Square and the footway which runs along the eastern side of Stephenson House and the bus station.

REDWAY CLOSURE – length of redway to be closed:-

That length running alongside Saxon Street, Bletchley (east side) from its junction with Princes Way to its junction with South Terrace.

Whilst the affected length of redway is closed the alternative route will be via Princes Way (south side), Albert Street (west side) and South Terrace (south side).

PEDESTRIAN CROSSING CLOSURE:-

The pedestrian crossing situated along Saxon Street, Bletchley at a point adjacent to the bus station will be temporarily closed. A signed alternative pedestrian route will be made available for the duration of this closure.

PROVISION OF TEMPORARY BUS STOPS:-

Temporary bus stops will be located as follows:-

a. Saxon Street - along the east-side lane of the southbound carriageway at points between the entrances into the bus station. Saxon Street will temporarily become a single lane carriageway at this point, and a temporary waiting area and pedestrian route will be provided within the site compound;

b. South Terrace (south side) between Saxon Street and the northern entrance into the Retail Unit car park.

It is anticipated that the closures will be in effect from Monday 3 March 2014 until Sunday 22 June 2014 inclusive. The affected lengths of roads, footway, redway and the pedestrian crossing will re-open sooner if the works are complete and it is safe to do so.

The closures and their alternative routes will be signed in accordance with Chapter 8 of the Traffic Signs Manual.

There shall be no exemptions from the provisions of the order except for emergency services vehicles and military vehicles on operational duties.

The proposed order will come into operation on 3 March 2014 and will continue in force for a period of up to a maximum of 18 months or until the said works have been completed, whichever is the earlier. If the works are not completed within the period stated, a further order may be made.

Any person committing a breach of the order will be liable upon prosecution to such fine as prescribed by the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.

Civic Offices — 19 February 2014
1 Saxon Gate East
Milton Keynes
Ifty Ali
Principal Solicitor – Law and Governance

MILTON KEYNES COUNCIL

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION OF PROPOSED NEIGHBOURHOOD AREAS FOR THE PARISH OF GREAT LINFORD

Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012

Milton Keynes Council has received applications for the designation of two neighbourhood areas and, in accordance with Regulation 6 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012, the Council is carrying out a six week consultation on the proposed Neighbourhood Areas from **Wednesday 19 February 2014 to Wednesday 2 April 2014.**

The applications:

Great Linford Parish Council - the Council has submitted proposals to prepare two Neighbourhood Plans covering the whole Parish area of Great Linford. These will replace the single neighbourhood area that was designated in February 2013. The applications are accompanied by maps showing the extent of the proposed Neighbourhood Areas and a statement from the Council explaining why and how they intend to prepare the Neighbourhood Plans for the areas.

The application can be seen on the Milton Keynes Council website at:
http://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/planning-and-building/planning-policy/neighbourhood-planning

How to comment:

All comments on the proposed Neighbourhood Area must be received by the Development Plans team by **5pm on Wednesday 2 April 2014**. Comments can be made:

By email to: development.plans@milton-keynes.gov.uk
By post to: Development Plans, Milton Keynes Council
Planning and Transport, Civic Offices, 1 Saxon Gate East, Central Milton Keynes MK9 3EJ
By fax to: 01908 252211

Please note that this is not a consultation on the Neighbourhood Plan itself, but merely the identification of the area for which the Parish or Town Council wish to prepare a Neighbourhood Plan. Neighbourhood Plans are a way for Town and Parish Councils to help shape how their community develops over the coming years.

Milton Keynes Council

The following applications may be inspected at the Planning, Economy and Development Department, Civic Offices, 1 Saxon Gate East, Milton Keynes. Representations, if any, to be submitted in writing to the above address within 21 days of the publication of this notice.

SECTION 73	**WITHIN A CONSERVATION AREA**
14/00211/TCA	Notification of intention to fell one Cedar tree at High Jasmin, 10 Mount Pleasant, Stoke Goldington
14/00223/ADV	Advert Consent to display 1 x single-bay notice board and 1 x free-standing sign in the church yard at St Lawrence Church, London Road, Broughton
14/00229/TCA	Notification of intention to crown reduce by 25% plus general pruning and maintenance of 1x Beech Tree at 14 West Street, Olney
14/00240/TCA	Notification of intention to fell 1x Ash Tree at 15 High Street, Lavendon
14/00244/FUL	Conversion of stable/garage to annexe at 28 Weathercock Lane, Woburn Sands
14/00254/TCA	Notification of intention to fell x1 Ash tree (T1) and pollard to height of 11-12m x1 Willow tree at Old Park Farm, Dag Lane, Stoke Goldington
14/00276/TCA	Notification of intention to fell 2x Horse Chestnut Trees, and trim 1x Horse Chestnut Tree at Yew Tree Cottage, Timpson Lane, Clifton Reynes
14/00277/FUL	Proposed replacement windows at 5 Green Lane, Wolverton
SECTION 67 & 73	**LISTED BUILDING WITHIN A CONSERVATION AREA**
14/00217/TCA	Notification of intention to reduce height of two Limes trees (T1 and T2) at Calverton Lodge, 38 Horsefair Green, Stony Stratford
14/00262/FUL	First floor rear extension at 22 Silver Street, Stony Stratford
14/00263/LBC	Listed building consent for first floor rear extension work at 22 Silver Street, Stony Stratford
SECTION 67	**LISTED BUILDING**
14/00197/LBC	Proposed removal of internal partition to form family kitchen area at West Wing, Lavendon Grange, Lavendon
14/00225/LBC	Listed building consent for the conversion of barn 1 to form dwelling (associated applications 11/00365/LBC and 10/01766/FUL) at Manor Farm, Newport Road, Hardmead
14/00248/FUL	Conversion of barn into residential annex at Church Farm House, Church Farm, Hardmead To Newton Blossomville, Hardmead
14/00249/LBC	Listed building consent for conversion of barn into residential annex at Church Farm House, Church Farm, Hardmead To Newton Blossomville, Hardmead
14/00257/MMAM	Minor Material Amendment to planning permission 10/01766/FUL for addition of carport at Manor Farm, Newport Road, Hardmead
SECTION 67 & 73	**AFFECTING THE SETTING OF A LISTED BUILDING**
14/00210/FUL	Erection of garden shed at The Barn, 1A School Lane, Loughton

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT (AS AMENDED)
TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT
(DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES) ORDER 2010
NOTICE UNDER ARTICLE 13 MAJOR

14/00256/FUL	Proposed restaurant units (Class A3/A4/A5) of 1026m2 (GIA) with associated hard/soft landscape and parking (resubmission of withdrawn application 13/02404/FUL) at Unit H, Stadium Way East, Denbigh North
14/00310/REM	Reserved matters pursuant to outline planning permission 11/00334/OUT for access, appearance, landscaping, layout and scale for the re-development of the site to provide up to 20,752 sqm (GEA) data centre (Use Class B8) floor space and 2,860 sqm (GEA) office floor space (Use Class B1) with associated landscaping, car parking and access from Third Avenue at Maxwell House, Third Avenue, Denbigh West Industrial Estate, Bletchley

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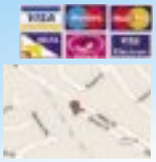

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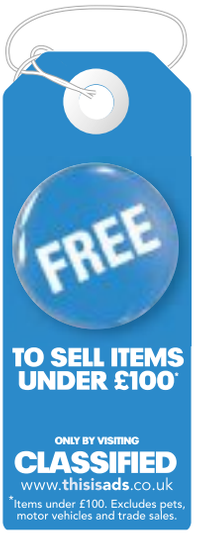

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WINTER SPORTS

Long jump to bobsleigh?

OLYMPIC long-jump champion Greg Rutherford wants to see how good he is at bobsleigh or skeleton once the 2014 Commonwealth Games in Glasgow are out of the way.

Rutherford, who won gold at London 2012, told the Guardian newspaper that he wants to compete in the 2018 Pyeongchang Winter Olympics in South Korea as he tries to become the first British athlete to win medals at Summer and Winter games.

He will attempt the skeleton and bobsleigh at the University of Bath later in the year.

"I am serious about it," Rutherford said.

"There is something about going down the ice head first that massively appeals to me.

"I genuinely want to try skeleton and bobsleigh. I might be awful or I might absolutely brick it but it's something I'm really keen to do."

Only the USA's Eddie Eagan has won gold medals at both a Summer and Winter Olympics, in light-heavyweight boxing in Antwerp in 1920 and the four man bobsleigh in Lake Placid in 1932.

Three others – Jacob Tullin Thams (ski jumping and sailing), Christa Luding-Rothenburger (speed skating and track cycling) and Clara Hughes (speed skating and road cycling) – have won medals in both games.

"If I am good enough, my plan will be to continue through to the summer Olympics and after 2016 either switch or spend my winters doing the new sport," added Rutherford.

The 27-year-old has been clocked at 10.26 seconds for the 100 metres and speed is something which is essential if he is to succeed in switching sports.

"Speed is the one thing I am incredibly fortunate to be blessed with," he said.

"There is no reason why I can't do well. "I have achieved the major goal in my sport, which is winning the Olympic title, and now I want other challenges."

Rutherford has this week been competing in the Birmingham Indoor Grand Prix, where he finished third.

World champion Alexsandr Menkov jumped 8.14m, with Rutherford reaching eight metres.

"Saturday was a good day for me and hopefully it will start to silence a few of those people when they realise I can still compete," Rutherford said.

MK Dons Head of Coaching GARY WADDOCK writes exclusively for MK News every week

IT WAS the ideal time to score against Oldham Athletic on Saturday.

On the balance of play and especially in the second half we deserved to get that goal at the end and we're happy with the 2-1 win regardless of the fact it came right at the end.

When you break the game down they had two or three good chances but in the second half we played better and put them under pressure.

We didn't play that well to begin with but in the second half we were on the front foot and put them on the back foot.

Darren Potter was a big miss for the team, especially in that middle of the park area.

He has been a regular playing in there and without him in there the set-up as a team is different, but players have to get used to that.

The number 10 role seems to really suit Ben Reeves and with his goal return he's a real threat for us.

I think we're more comfortable with him in that position and it's a good role for him.

It was Preston last night and obviously it was very sad news to hear that Sir Tom Finney has passed away.

You can see what the people up there and the footballing world thought of the man and supporters around the country giving him a round of applause I think will have been very fitting for him.

He's one of the all time legends in the British game and Preston can use that to motivate and galvanise themselves for him and his family.

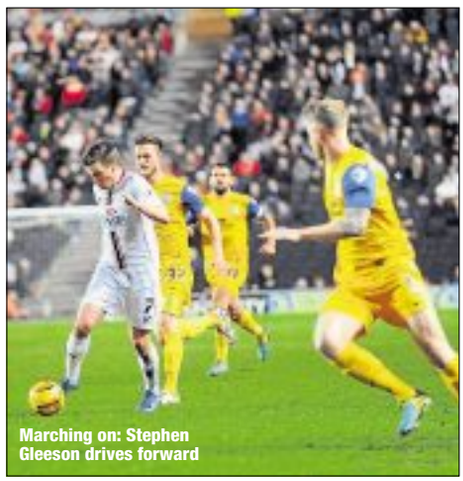
It's Bradford on Saturday and that's going to be another tough one for us.

• GARY was speaking before Dons' home game against Preston North End yesterday evening.

NEXT DONS FIXTURES

SAT BRADFORD CITY (A) L1
TUES OLDHAM ATHLETIC (A) L1
MAR 1 SHEFFIELD UNITED (H) L1
MAR 8 SWINDON TOWN (A) L1
MAR 11 NOTTS COUNTY (A) L1
MAR 15 PETERBOROUGH (H) L1
MAR 22 STEVENAGE (A) L1

Injury blow: Aston Villa loanee Samir Carruthers was taken off in the first half



Marching on: Stephen Gleeson drives forward

LEAGUE ONE TABLE

			Home					Away						
	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	GD	PTS
1	Brentford	30	12	1	2	30	12	8	5	2	24	16	+26	66
2	Leyton Orient	32	9	2	4	30	15	10	5	2	34	17	+32	64
3	Wolves	30	12	3	2	30	9	7	4	2	21	11	+31	64
4	Preston	31	6	7	2	21	17	9	5	2	20	12	+12	57
5	Rotherham	30	6	7	3	29	26	9	2	3	24	13	+14	54
6	Peterborough	30	9	2	4	20	15	6	2	7	30	26	+9	49
7	Walsall	31	6	4	5	16	18	6	7	3	20	11	+7	47
8	Swindon	31	10	2	3	31	17	3	4	9	18	24	+8	45
9	DONS	31	8	4	4	26	18	4	3	8	20	25	+3	43
10	Port Vale	31	8	3	4	24	19	5	1	10	19	27	-3	43
11	Bradford	31	5	8	3	26	17	3	6	6	16	21	+4	38
12	Gillingham	31	7	4	5	23	20	4	1	10	19	33	-11	38
13	Coventry	30	7	4	4	33	31	6	4	5	25	22	+5	37
14	Carlisle	31	7	2	7	24	28	3	4	8	12	24	-16	36
15	Colchester	28	5	3	5	18	17	3	8	4	17	19	-1	35
16	Oldham	31	5	4	5	17	19	4	3	10	18	25	-9	34
17	Bristol City	32	4	7	6	24	25	2	7	6	23	27	-5	32
18	Tranmere	31	3	5	7	18	29	5	3	8	17	25	-19	32
19	Crawley	25	5	4	4	13	15	2	6	4	16	19	-5	31
20	Crewe	31	6	4	6	20	24	2	3	10	14	36	-26	31
21	Notts County	32	7	1	7	24	19	2	2	13	16	33	-12	30
22	Sheff Utd	28	6	5	3	20	14	1	3	10	8	24	-10	29
23	Shrewsbury	31	4	6	7	13	16	2	4	8	15	25	-13	28
24	Stevenage	29	4	2	7	15	19	3	2	11	13	30	-21	25

Lightning suffer cup hangover after double league defeat

FROM BACK PAGE

than the guys deserve. They haven't complained once about all the travelling – they just get on with it, week in and week out.

"Even for midweek training it's an hour there and an hour back, and most of the guys have jobs, too – so to be where we are is amazing and we're so, so happy.

"We've had a hugely busy period since our break in January and played a lot of midweek games as well as twice every weekend – you try asking top footballers to do that as well as hold down a day job.

"The last week or so in particular has been difficult with quite a few injuries but the team spirit here never fails to amaze me - how they keep going is just something else."

Turning his attentions to the Lightning's supporters, Rausa said the team and the management were grateful for their efforts.

"The number of fans that turn out to see us in Coventry has been beyond what we'd hoped for, and I can't tell you how much we appreciate that," he said.

"At the beginning of the season we didn't know what to expect - but, at the risk of sounding like a stuck record, I really do think we have the best fans in the league.

"We had back-to-back games in Basingstoke then Guildford recently and we didn't know how many people would travel - but our supporters packed the away blocks at both games and out-sang the home support.

"Then Manchester was just exceptional - a near six hour return trip on a weeknight and we had 30 or 40 fans singing their hearts out. Nick Poole said the noise they made gave him a shiver down his spine."

The second leg with Manchester was another match which was packed full of penalties and it was the visitors who drew first blood, Janne Jokila firing in just shy of six minutes.

Phoenix were level through James Neil and then took the lead through František Bakrlík.

On a busy night for the officials Manchester had three men in the penalty box at one stage, Rob Schnabel for tripping, Ben Wood for delay of game and head coach Tony Hand, who was given ten minutes for misconduct.

Lascek blasted in unassisted for 2-2 and then a topsy turvy contest continued when Lightning skipper Adam Carr restored the lead for the visitors.

That didn't last long though as Lightning's Lewis Christie was told to take a seat for hooking, allowing Luke Boothroyd to level for Manchester on the powerplay.

This was a controversial strike with the visitors alleging that there was a player in the crease, and in the aftermath Lightning net minder Stephen Wall received a ten minute misconduct penalty.

Phoenix couldn't take advantage though with Carr striking for a second time to hand Lightning a 4-3 lead before a Manchester goal was disallowed - this time a player in the crease was spotted by the officials.

At 38:24 Christie was given a match penalty for high sticks and less than a minute had passed before Manchester's Robin Kovar was handed the same fate for abuse of an official.

No side could find clear water with Neil levelling at 4-4 before Lightning lost Ross Green and Lukas Zatopek to the bin for high sticks and tripping respectively, giving the hosts a 5 on 3 advantage.

The visitors survived a nervy final period though before Lascek started the party in four on four overtime.

Lightning suffered a hangover after the win at the weekend, with two defeats as they resumed English Premier League action.

They were first beaten 6-2 in Coventry by Basingstoke in a dress rehearsal of the cup final, before another reverse 24-hours later, this time 4-2 at Sheffield Steeldogs.

Poole admitted that his players may have been concentrating too much on the cup final exploits ahead of the return to league fixtures.

His side will return to the ice this evening for a trip to Swindon Wildcats before a chance of revenge against Sheffield, who visit the Skydome on Saturday.

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Dons and Preston fight it out in draw

FROM BACK PAGE

minute. Dons made a quick move on the counter, and Ben Reeves played a lovely ball for Daniel Powell, who had acres of space, the entire net to aim at and only the keeper to beat.

But he somehow managed to scuff his shot, and the one on one chance went begging as the winger shot straight at Declan Rudd's foot.

MK Dons and Preston fans shared a minute's applause for Sir Tom Finney in the seventh minute, which was a nice touch as the crowd paid its respects to a legend of the game.

Preston had enjoyed a couple of half-chances, with Laird flashing a 35-yard pot shot over the bar early on, before Jack King's header from a corner went over the bar in the 13th minute.

It was Preston who had the majority of the possession in the first quarter of the game, but they were failing to turn that territory into any clear cut chances, and Dons were easily able to deal with the Preston offence.

Laird should have done better when he was given the ball with time and space on the half-hour, but Hodson was able to get back to get the block in.

Dons were defending impressively, thwarting the Preston attack at every avenue, although David Martin was forced into an acrobatic save when Joe Garner managed to get a header away at a corner.

Powell should have done better again nine minutes before half time when Reeves played the ball to him in the box after a Stephen Gleeson free kick was cleared, but the winger was left on his backside as he turned and shot, to the delight of the visiting supporters.

Dons did just about enough to put Garner off his header in the 40th minute when his effort went wide despite the fact he was in the six yard box, but if truth be told, the first half had been a dour affair, with both teams struggling, particularly when the ball was played into the final third.

Dons were coming back into the game as half time approached, but there would be no further opportunities in the opening 45 minutes.

Smith was brought on at half time, which was perhaps an indicator of how Preston had been

From the bench: Alan Smith was introduced

bullying the young Dons side in the first half.

Preston continued with the upper hand in the second as firstly John Welsh forced Martin to tip the ball over his bar with a fine save, before the visitors whipped in a free kick via Neil Kilkenny that no attacker could get on the end of in the 49th minute.

There had been more action in the first five minutes of the second half than the entire first half, and that was epitomised by Keith Keane, who struck the post when he should have done better with acres of space in the Dons six yard box following a mistake by the home defence.

Dons continued to batten down the hatches as they restricted Preston to shots from outside the box and their free kicks in were cleared as the game ticked past the hour mark, with Antony Kay and Jordan Spence proving immovable at the centre of defence.

Dons then had a double chance in the 62nd minute, with Powell knocking a header past the defender and completely annihilating Tom Clarke for pace before proceeding to round the keeper. But by the time he had gotten past those two players, King was able to recover, and the centre back nodded Powell's shot off the line.

From the resulting corner, Rudd made a great save to deny Kay from giving Dons a rare goal at a corner, and the stalemate ensued.

Laird got the wrong side of George Baldock before striking a shot into the sidenetting as Dons were given a reminder, but the pace of the second half was providing a much better game.

Dele Alli was in the rare position of him playing deeper than the number 10 role he usually occupies, and he was doing a good job of breaking up the Preston play in the middle of the park.

On 70 minutes, Izale McLeod did some brilliant work on the right hand side to cross in for Reeves, who took a touch to get around his defender, but Rudd sprinted off his line and was able to claim the ball.

Heading into the last 10 minutes it was still looking unclear, and it looked more and more like just one goal would decide the tie.

With nine minutes left Stuart Beavon played the ball across goal after he was supplied by fellow sub Chris Humphreys, but there was nobody to connect with the cross as another chance went by the wayside.

The game was certainly a physical battle in midfield, and the game was there for the taking, but both sides' defences were standing firm to the pressure both were sustaining.

Smith was winning his fair share of headers as he was placed in a more advanced role, with Dons taking on the unusual role of lumping the ball forward.

Josh Brownhill fired an effort over from the edge of the box in the 88th minute as they looked for a winner.

But yellow cards for McLeod and Smith and Clarke and for Preston in the dying embers typified a scrappy affair as both sides were forced to share the spoils. Bradford are next for Dons on Saturday.

SPORTSSHORTS

RUGBY UNION

MILTON Keynes ground out a 26-3 win against Stow on the Wold on Saturday.

Dan Pearson took advantage of Phil Powell's interception to get the opening try but Stow responded with a penalty to make it 5-3.

But after half time MK pulled away with another Pearson try, and City crossed the whitewash twice more to hand them a victory which means they remain fourth in the Southern Counties North division.

Leaders Bletchley saw their Buckinghamshire derby with High Wycombe postponed.

HOCKEY

STRUGGLERS Milton Keynes Ladies 1sts picked up an impressive and crucial 2-1 victory over third-placed Hampstead and Westminster 2nds.

The win for the 10th placed side was all the more important with 11th-placed Wallingford beating fifth-placed West Hampstead 5-0 in Division 3A of the South Club's Women's Hockey League.

It means that MK have drawn level on points with Oxford 2nds who are in ninth.

The men's 1sts didn't fair as well though. Jamie Dodds and Mikey Gilson scored in the 3-2 defeat at Lewes, and they are five points clear of the relegation zone in the South Hockey League Premier Division One.

ATHLETICS

THERE were more personal best times for Marshall Milton Keynes Athletic club at the Birmingham Indoor Games, with Ryan Walker setting a new target of 7.17 seconds in the 60m and Elysia Marriott reducing her best time to 8.10s.

More PBs came in the 200m, with Meredith Kenton (F17) setting a new PB of 28.14s while Kreston Edghill (M17) recorded 29.63s and Kate Maddox (F15) improved her best to 39.18s. The final PB came in the long jump for James Mottram (M17) as he leapt 5.23m.

Meanwhile, competing in the South of England Veteran's Indoor Championships at the Lee Valley complex, John Browne (M60) won his 60m age category in 8.02s while it was third for John Turner (M55) taking 8.79s.

Paul Canning won two silvers and a bronze in the 400m, triple jump and 200m respectively.

FORMULA ONE

THE second pre-season test of 2014 is taking place in Bahrain from today until Saturday.

Sebastian Vettel is taking to the track today and tomorrow, with Red Bull Racing team mate Daniel Ricciardo in action on Friday and Saturday. After several problems in their first pre-season test in Jerez, with the team managing just 21 laps out of the four days, the Tilbrook outfit are targeting better reliability this time around.

A third test will take place in Bahrain from February 27 to March 2, before the season begins in Melbourne on March 16.

BADMINTON

England push top seeds all the way in final

ENGLAND took holders and top seeds Denmark all the way before having to settle for the silver medal in the men's final at the European Team Championships in Basel on Sunday afternoon.

Team captain Rajiv Ouseph gave third seeds England the start they needed when he defeated Hans-Kristian Vittinghus 21-13 21-16.

Commonwealth silver medallist Ouseph, who went into the contest trailing 3-2 in head-to-head meetings, led all the way in the first game then took control from 12-12 in the second.

England, based at the National Badminton Centre in the city, needed their doubles stars Chris Adcock and Andy Ellis to overcome Denmark's 2011 Yonex All England champions and 2013 world runners-up Carsten Mogensen and Mathias Boe to give them a winning platform.

But they had only beaten the Danes once in five meetings and that was at last year's European Team Championships. The Danes took a close first game 21-17 before Adcock and Ellis fought back to win the second 21-19 despite Boe and Mogensen recovering from 18-15 down to draw level at 19-19.

In the decider there was nothing to choose between the pairs up to 11-11 but then Boe and Mogensen clinched a 63-minute contest 21-14.

Next up was 21-year-old Toby Penty who faced 20-year-old Viktor Axelsen, who is ranked 85 places higher at number 25 in the world. Penty has recaptured some of his confidence and match sharpness having played in every England match this week but Axelsen was too strong, winning 21-13 21-8.

That left Chris Langridge and Peter Mills, the heroes of Saturday's win over second seeds Germany, needing to beat Mads Conrad-Petersen and Mads Pieler Kolding, who came out on top 21-15 21-19 despite Langridge and Mills drawing level at 19-19 in the second having trailed 15-11.

That clinched gold for Denmark 3-1, but England can look back on the week with satisfaction after improving on their bronze of two years ago in Amsterdam.

The performances will certainly set them up for the Yonex All England Open Championships in Birmingham from 4-9 March.

England's Head Coach Jakob Hoi said: "The final gave us the opportunity to compete against the best, that's what we are here for.

"We had three matches where we managed to create the opportunity to dictate and to win. Raj (Ouseph) was really, really tough, and has been a brilliant captain here, in every way.

"The team has been good and it's really nice to see how the culture about 'we make each other better' is settling in both groups.

"I love being with these guys, the players, coaches and physio support all want the best from each other.

"We were here to win, but also to measure our level, and I am proud of the silver."

MKSPORT
Wednesday, February 19, 2014 | Issue number: 598 | www.mkweb.co.uk | £1 where sold

England claim the silver - page 75

Robbo proud of skeleton squad in Preston battle

LEAGUE ONE
MK DONS 0
PRESTON NORTH END 0

BY SCOTT KIRK
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MK DONS' threadbare squad took another battering last night as Samir Carruthers and Lee Hodson were both forced off the pitch with injury against Preston.

It is unclear how long either player will be out for, but both were substituted off in the goaless draw to add more injury woes for manager Karl Robinson.

"The boys are pulling miracles out of their hats," he said.

"The players deserve a tremendous mention and as a fan, your players have been magnificent.

"We're a very skeleton squad and to lose Samir and Lee means that I have nothing left. I thought we had the best two chances of the game but I'll be honest, I'm not looking forward to watching it back."

Alan Smith is a player who hasn't featured much for Dons this season, but he appeared yesterday and Robinson said he was licking his lips at the prospect of getting involved in the physical encounter.

"There are games for Smithy," he said. "I could sense it was a game he wanted to be a part of and we gave him the opportunity.

"The pitch was diabolical really and their players said it would make their game plan easier, so it's not great when you're playing at home and it suits the opposition."

After a 35-yard pot shot at goal by Preston's Scott Laird, it was Dons who had the first meaningful chance of the game in the 10th

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Drawing a blank: Dan Powell had the best chance of the match for MK Dons

Picture: Andy Handley

Lightning are cup final heroes after nail-biting victory over Manchester

MK LIGHTNING have a cup final to look forward to.

Nick Poole's side overcame Manchester Phoenix in the EPL Cup semi-finals by completing a 10-9 aggregate victory over two legs on Thursday night – with the winning goal coming in sudden death overtime. The first leg at Lightning's temporary home of the Coventry Skydome ended 5-5 last week, with Poole's men conceding three last gasp goals to throw away a commanding position. Thursday's second leg was another tense, tight affair, which ended 4-4 after regulation time.

That signalled an extra stanza and it was Stan Lascek who bagged an unassisted golden goal for Lightning to kick-start the celebrations.

The final will also be over two legs, with Hampshire outfit Basingstoke Bison awaiting in the showpiece for the silverware.

Both sides will be attempting to lift the trophy for the first time with the first leg of the final set for Lightning's temporary home of the Coventry Skydome on Wednesday, March 5.

The second leg will be held at Basingstoke's Silverdome arena a week later on March 12. Face off for both games is set to be 7.45pm.

Poole said: "It was a massive performance from all the players and travelling fans."

Lightning general manager Vito Rausa praised the club for their semi-final victory, which is the more impressive due to Lightning's exile in Coventry because of refurbishment at their usual Planet Ice home.

"When you think that with even our home games being away games, for us to be sitting fourth [in the English Premier League] is amazing, and to get to the cup final is superb," said Rausa.

"Given all of our challenges logistically this season, this is no more

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